'Flower Island Project is also for future generations' PAGE 3
3 quakes near Farallon de Pajaros, Pagan in past 3 days. PAGE 8

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Camacho's final wish, fulfilled

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

As stated in his will as his final wish, all 13 parishes in the Commonwealth and community members from all over the island gathered at the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa yesterday to say goodbye to bishop emeritus Tomas Aguon Camacho.

Hundreds of people from across the CNMI gathered at the Mount Carmel Cathedral yesterday to pay their respects to their former bishop. Also present were priests from Chuuk and Guam.

See CAMACHO on Page 4

The priests of all 13 parishes in the Commonwealth and Bishop Ryan Jimenez of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa say their prayers for late bishop emeritus Tomas Aguon Camacho before he is buried inside the Mount Carmel Cathedral yesterday.
KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Grass fires destroy vegetation in San Roque, Tanapag

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Three grass fires destroyed a total of over an acre of vegetation near the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School in San Roque and at the Tanapag Cemetery Monday afternoon and night.

No one was reported injured in the three incidents.

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde said the first fire was reported at 1:25pm by a GTC

See GRASS on Page 4

Rising from the ashes of drug addiction

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Soon after Ray was entered into the Superior Court's Drug Court program after his arrest in 2016, he was so determined to graduate that, when he had no car to get to his drug tests, he would walk all the way from San Vicente to Susupe to make sure he made the tests' cutoff time.

He never missed a drug test and not once did he ever test positive for drug use.

Last January, Ray's mother saw

See RISING on Page 4

Bill OK'd to allow poker parlors in select areas

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres enacted last week a local bill that allows gaming machines to be operated within certain areas on Saipan.

Rep. John Paul Sablan's (R-Saipan) House Local Bill 20-47 intends to allow gaming machines to be operated in areas zoned as mixed commercial but not in areas zoned residential.

The previous law did not allow the operation of gaming machines in

See BILL on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
About 93 percent of defendants in federal court cannot afford to hire their own attorney.
PAGE 8

YOUNGSTYLE
Today's issue of *Saipan Tribune* comes with a pullout YoungStyle section.
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LIFE & STYLE
French couturier Hubert de Givenchy has died at 91.
PAGE 20

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

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Local

Inmate blames DOC official, officer for his disability

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Jesse James Babauta Camacho blames two Department of Corrections employees for his disability, saying they allegedly deliberately delayed his medical treatment last November.

In a handwritten letter dated Feb. 9, 2018, that was filed in the court docket yesterday, Camacho, a DOC inmate, appealed to the U.S. District Court for the NMI for a hearing on his complaint.

Camacho, who underwent heart surgery last November, said a DOC official and officer should be held responsible because it's been a practice at DOC to always deny and delay the inmates' medical needs.

The inmate said he can't pay a lawyer to represent him in his complaint.

Saipan Tribune was still trying to contact the DOC official and officer yesterday for comments; their names are being withheld for now.

In his letter, Camacho said he was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room last Aug. 30 for chest pain and breathing difficulty. A doctor reportedly later attributed it to anxiety, saying nothing could be done for him. Camacho wonders how the doctor reached the diagnosis without even conducting a test on him.

He said he again experienced chest pain and breathing difficulty at his cell the following day. Camacho said he asked to be taken to the hospital, but, per the DOC official's instruction, he would be taken to the Commonwealth Health Center the following day. He said he called his aunt to plead for him to be taken to the hospital. He said his aunt later told him that a DOC officer stated that he had already been taken to the hospital the night before.

Camacho said he told his aunt it was a lie because he was never taken to the hospital the night before.

Camacho said medics checked him and recommended to two DOC officers that he should be taken to the hospital.

He said the two officers, however, were told by the other DOC officer that there would be no hospital run and that he would just be given a nebulizer.

Camacho said that, as his pain was getting worse, he called the main control officer at DOC. He said the DOC official told the officer to take him out for fresh air and that they would call the medics again. Camacho said he called his aunt again to beg for DOC to take him to the hospital. He said his aunt told him that no one was picking up the phone at DOC's main control.

Camacho said at 7pm that same day, he talked with two DOC officers and asked that he be taken to the hospital. He said the two officers noticed he looked so pale. He said he then blacked out.

Camacho said he was taken to the hospital's emergency room, where a doctor told him he had a heart attack.

Camacho said he was transferred to the intensive care unit where he stayed for three days.

He said a doctor told him he had a major heart attack and that he needs to see a heart specialist in the Philippines.

Camacho said the doctor told his escorting officer that his heart attack could have been prevented if he was taken to the hospital immediately when he first complained of chest pain last Aug. 31.

He said the Office of the Attorney General stated that he could not be taken to the Philippines as there is no U.S prison facility there. He said a doctor recommended that he see a heart specialist in Hawaii, but a medical referral officer told him last Oct. 3 that he can't be sent to Hawaii as there is no money.

Camacho said he was brought to Guam, instead, last Oct. 17 to get a second opinion. He said a Guam doctor informed him that he had a severe four-vessel coronary artery disease.

Two days later, Camacho had chest pain again so he was admitted to a Guam hospital, where doctors recommended that he be flown to the Los Angeles Hospital immediately.

Camacho said he was taken last Nov. 16 from Guam to the Los Angeles Hospital, where he underwent a heart bypass the following day (Los Angeles time). Camacho returned to Saipan last Nov. 30.

"Now, after my heart surgery, I will never be the same," he said.

Camacho was convicted in the killing of a 13-year-old boy in Dandan in April 1988. He was sentenced in 1999 to 45 years in prison. The boy was stabbed numerous times in his own home as part of initiation rites for membership in the so-called Red Rum Gang.

Camacho's co-defendants, both minors at the time, entered a plea deal with the government and were sentenced to two years imprisonment each.

Last June, Camacho applied for parole, but the Board of Parole denied his application.

TOURNAMENT WINNER NMC

As part of is 45th anniversary celebration, MarPac recently awarded 45 six packs of Budweiser and Bud Light beer to Terry Deleon Guerrero, center, the winner of the Most Accurate Drive contest at the recently held 15thAnnual NMC Foundation Golf Tournament. The prize was presented by Tom Basa Jr., MarPac's consumer sales manager, left, and James Lee, MarPac's beverage sales and marketing manager, right.

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$5,000 at midnight!
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Water service interruption on Saipan

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Friday, March 16, from 8am to 5pm affecting customers on the Dandan tank service areas: Lower Dandan Homestead, Airport Road, As Lito, portions of Kannat Tabla, Fina Sisu, As Perdido, and Koblerville.

The cause of the water service interruption is due to a transmission leak on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Isley Booster 2 station. This transmission line provides water to the Dandan tank. Repairs on the six-inch transmission line will be performed by a contractor from 8am to 5pm.

Water service will resume normal service hours on Friday, March 16, at 5pm for the following areas: Lower Dandan Homestead, Airport Road, As Lito, portions of Kannat Tabla and Fina Sisu. Water service hours for customers along Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road from Happy Market to ABCD Market in Koblerville will also receive water on Friday, March 16, from 6am to 8am and 5pm to 8pm. Normal scheduled water service hours for these areas will resume on Saturday, March 17, 2018.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates at (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

'Flower Island Project is also for future generations'

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Marianas Visitors Authority's Flower Island Project not only aims to transform the islands into a flower-dotted destination for tourists to enjoy, but also to allow the CNMI's future generation to continue to relish the beauty of nature.

Renowned landscape architect Junichi Inada discussed this important offshoot of MVA's Flower Island Project during yesterday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"With this kind of development, we are also working for the next generation, our children. Today we grow trees [and flowers but] no way can we enjoy them immediately. But two generations after, our children [will] surely enjoy them. This is what we did in Singapore with the botanical gardens," he said.

Inada, the managing director and representative partner of WIN Landscaping Planning & Design, said the project has been successfully done with the Garden City Concept that he spearheaded in Singapore in 1983 under the late prime minister Lee Kuan Yew.

"After 50 years of development, Singapore is now a garden city. Garden first, city later. I'm very sure the CNMI has very good potential… Saipan is the center, Tinian is hot and dry, and Rota [still] maintains its rich topsoil and very green… All three [work] as a tripod and the three-island concept is very strong," he said.

Inada also wants the CNMI to start a Flower Garden Festival so that tourists and locals alike can appreciate the concept.

"In Singapore, we have a flower festival every two years." The centerpiece is a 10-meter high tower that is covered entirely with orchids," he added.

Unlike other countries' gateway airports, Singapore's Changi International Airport has no signs that welcome visitors.

"The Garden City Concept is already very welcoming to visitors [even without] a welcome signage [at the airport]. With the garden environment and arrangement, we are already receiving our guests with the message 'Welcome to Garden City Singapore!'" he said.

Inada is expected to go into more on detail about the Flower Island Project during the MVA meeting tomorrow at the Kensington Hotel.

Phase I of MVA's Flower Island Project includes a conceptual directional master plan for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. It will also involve a schematic plan for all CNMI airports and Banzai Cliff; a conceptual computer graphic montage for the airports and Airport Road toward Beach Road on Saipan; a topographical study model of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and schematic image model of the Saipan airport.

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Drivetrain: FWD
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Transmission: AUTO
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Color: BLACK
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Drivetrain: FWD
Engine: 2.4 L DOHC
Transmission: 6 SPEED AUTO
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Color: BLUE
$16,995

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Color: RED/BLACK
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Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 19778
Color: Black
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STOCK # HA051245
Drivetrain: FWD
Engine: : 2.4L 4-cyl
Transmission: AUTO
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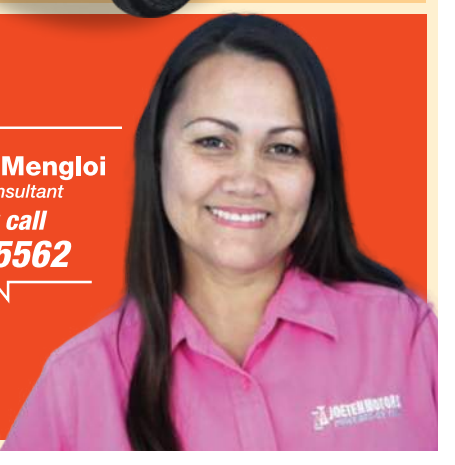

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DLNR OK'd to collect fees in conservation areas

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources is now authorized to impose and collect management fees and regulate activities in conservation areas.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed Rep. Alice Igitol's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-69 last week. The new law authorizes the DLNR, through its Division of Fish and Wildlife, to regulate marine sports and activities within conservation areas and sanctuaries as well as impose and collect conservation area management fees.

Now known as Public Law 20-44, the DLNR secretary is given the authority to manage marine conservation areas and sanctuaries—with the day-to-day administration and management of the areas and sanctuaries assigned to the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

The law authorizes the division to issue permits and impose and collect marine conservation area fees, among others.

The fee would be deposited into the Conservation Area Management Revolving Fund.

Fees collected shall be deposited into the Conservation Area Management Revolving Fund, except for fees collected on Rota and Tinian and Aguiguan. Fifteen percent of the total revenue collected would each go toward the Rota and Tinian and Aguiguan revolving fund every fiscal year, while the remaining 70 percent goes to the Saipan fund.

These funds would be used for enforcement, conservation, or research activities related to marine protected areas management; purchase of equipment such as vehicles, boats, microscopes, etc. related to marine protected areas management; purchase of office supplies and operation supplies for the enforcement, conservation, or research on marine protected areas management; capacity building and training for enforcement, conservation, or research on the area; and more.

The division is mandated to keep a daily record of the activities relevant to the operation and management of the conservation areas.

A fine of at least $500, but not more than $10,000 is imposed on violators.

CAMACHO

From Page 1

According to Bishop Ryan Jimenez, it was Camacho's final wish that, during his funeral, all the 13 parishes would gather at the cathedral as one church and as one people.

"In the past nine days before his death, it was bishop Camacho's wish that all of us would work together, from his family to the different parishes…That was his wish and I think we did that," he said.

Camacho's burial Mass was kept simple and solemn, with the focus centered on Camacho's contributions to the Catholic faith in the CNMI.

Because Camacho was the first bishop of the CNMI and also managed the construction of the cathedral, he was able to prepare for himself a burial spot in a crypt beneath the cathedral itself.

Hours before, fire trucks formed an arc of water along Beach Road as the remains of Camacho were brought to the cathedral. Mount Carmel School students and employees also held a roadside waving along Beach Road to pay tribute.

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services firefighters pay special tribute to the late bishop emeritus Tomas Camacho by spraying an arc of water over an arriving funeral procession for Camacho along Beach Road in Susupe yesterday.

DEREK GERSONDE

According to Jimenez, Camacho was very specific about his wishes when it came to his burial.

"When this was built, bishop Camacho planned all this. It was Sablan Construction who [built the cathedral] and I only got to know about it when he gave me his last will and testament in February of 2014," he said.

Jimenez said that Camacho's will was very particular, from exactly where he wanted to be buried and who he wanted to help open the crypt. "He always talked about his death, he was truly prepared," he said.

Jimenez saw to it that every particular wish listed in Camacho's final will was carried out as closely as possible because he is grateful not only for Camacho's contribution but for blessing him as his successor.

"We're all very grateful to God for the gift of bishop Tomas as the first bishop in our diocese…and in a personal way if he hadn't accepted me I wouldn't be here in this diocese without him…," he said.

According to Camacho's niece, Erin Angela Camacho, she and her entire family are appreciative of the burial ceremony that the diocese organized for her uncle and for the community who showed its love and support for their former bishop.

"It's been a nice show of support from the community he served through the years," she said.

Erin Camacho said that bishop Camacho's entire immediate family was present for the burial, even those who now live in the U.S. mainland.

When asked about the memory of her uncle that stood out the most as the burial concluded, she said that she will forever remember that he was a spiritual leader, both for the community and in her family, but he was also an outstanding uncle.

"Throughout my years, even when I went off to school, every time it was my birthday I would still always get a message…I still have my last text from him from my last birthday that I'm not going to get this year," she said.

Camacho died last March 5 at the Commonwealth Health Center following a lingering illness.

GRASS

From Page 1

school staff.

Gersonde said firefighters from DFEMS Susupe Fire Station-Forestry 1 Unit extinguished the blaze at 3:27pm.

At 4:45pm, another caller reported that the grass fire had broken out at the same location.

Firefighters from Susupe and Garapan fire stations responded and fully killed the blaze at 6:40pm.

Gersonde said the cause of the first fire is undetermined, while the second fire was just a rekindling of the first incident.

Gersonde said a total of half an acre of vegetation was burned and that DFEMS used 1,750 gallons of water for the two operations.

At 6:44pm, a caller reported that fire had broken out at the Tanapag Cemetery.

Firefighters from the Susupe Fire Station-Forestry I Unit stamped out the fire at 7:16pm.

Gersonde said about a quarter of an acre was burned and that DFEMS used 250 gallons of water for the operation.

"The cause of the fire is undetermined and is being investigated," he said.

As the CNMI's dry season has begun, a brush fire swept 4.5 acres of vegetation in Papago last Wednesday.

Two weeks ago, multiple brush fires occurred on Tinian and Rota.

Gersonde reminded the public that the best way to battle grass fires is to prevent it from ever starting.

RISING

From Page 1

him graduate from the Division of Customs 7th Cycle Academy. Last week, his case was dismissed and his mother was present for another graduation, this time from the CNMI Drug Court Program.

When Jesse was arrested in 2016 for possession of methamphetamine, he was confident he could win his case in court. He later realized that winning the case wasn't the victory he wanted.

He wanted to rebuild his life, mend his relationship with his older children, and become a father to his four young children. That has been his frame of reference since joining the CNMI Drug Court Program in December 2016. Since then, he has never had a positive drug test.

Now gainfully employed as a driver at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Jesse had his biggest victory when he finally regained custody of his four young children.

Last week, his case was dismissed and his children witnessed his graduation from the CNMI Drug Court Program.

Jesse said his determination to be with his children made him complete the program.

"We just gonna have faith in God," Jesse said in an interview.

Once homeless and struggling with drug addiction, Ray and Jesse are the first graduates of the CNMI Drug Court Program. They were both accepted into the program on Dec. 22, 2016.

Under the program, participants are required to attend a set number of hours of recovery or self-help meetings weekly and random drug testing three times weekly from Day 1 until graduation day.

Drug Court caseworker Jaclyn T. Mendiola said that Ray's mother was why he was so determined to face the uphill challenge of recovery and abide by the stringent Drug Court program structure.

Mendiola said that Ray started off with nothing but the clothes on his back when he was arrested and his deep love for his mother.

Prior to his arrest, Ray was homeless. He lived out of his car, which later broke down. At that time, he was still dealing with the passing of his father.

Mendiola said that for one year, two months, and 14 days, they were part of Ray's team and knew he was bound for success.

Ray attended the ABC's of credit workshop by the Commonwealth Development Authority; was involved in Drug Court activities such as the Walk for Recovery and beach cleanups; he volunteered his time at Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc., a non-profit organization; completed the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Motheread Fatheread Program and workplace basic computing skills training; and attended the Department of Labor Workforce Investment Agency workshop.

Ray also became actively involved in faith-based activities.

Mendiola said Customs director Jose Mafnas believed in Ray's ability to perform and supported him in undergoing the Customs Cycle Academy.

Ray is now a full-time government employee and is pretty much settled with establishing his career as a law enforcement officer.

In the case of Jesse, Mendiola recalled that, during her initial meeting with him, he stated all he wanted was to change his life as he has four young children who need him. At that time, Jesse was homeless and needed a lot of resources to stabilize. Mendiola said she knew that Jesse had a difficult journey ahead of him. He started his journey of recovery by nurturing his faith and finding his strength in God. Jesse leaned on his church family to grow spiritually.

Jesse entered the Drug Court program as a skilled man with work experience and certification but without a high school diploma.

Jesse participated in the Drug Court Recovery Month activities such as the Walk for Recovery, and Cash for Trash Beach Cleanup. He completed the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Motheread Fatheread Program, and the workplace basic computing skills. He attended the Labor Workforce Investment Agency workshop.

Mendiola said the NMTI management and its chief executive officer, Agnes McPhetres, saw Jessie's potential to be a great employee and student.

Jesse is now a driver at NMTI and a student in its auto mechanic program. He is expected to graduate from NMTI this September.

Mendiola said Jesse now fully provides for his four young children as a single father.

"He is 422 days sober and ready to live the rest of his life as a law-abiding member, father and a role model to his children and ongoing Drug Court participants," Mendiola said.

BILL

From Page 1

mixed commercial areas.

Sablan introduced the bill, now known as Saipan Local Law 20-21, at the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation in late December 2017.

He initially pushed for the bill's placement on the bill calendar that day, but was met with opposition by majority of the delegation members present. Sablan chairs the delegation.

According to the bill, the amendment to Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 is based on the recommendations of the Zoning administrator, as presented at the Dec. 20, 2017, delegation session to address a "deficiency in S.L.L. 20-12."

"The amendment will continue to allow the operation of poker machines in portions of areas zoned mixed commercial which are not near an area zoned residential," the bill states.

The author pointed out in its findings that S.L.L. 18-5, which was later amended, basically killed the poker parlor industry, which is also a main source of funding for the Saipan Higher Education Funding Act.

"Millions of dollars of scholarship funding would be considered to be non-conforming through absolutely no fault of their own," the bill states. S.L.L. 18-5 sets select zoned areas on Saipan in which the operation of poker machines are permitted.

S.L.L. 18-5 was further amended by S.L.L. 20-12, where poker parlors were allowed to operate within tourist resort and mixed commercial districts on lots abutting or west of Beach Road and Chalan Tomas Sablan, from Afetna Road to Chalan Msgr. Guerrero and on lots abutting or west of Chalan Pale Arnold from Chalan Msgr. Guerrero to Dama de Noche St., as well as in the Garapan Core, Garapan East, and Beach Road zoning districts, if 200 feet away from a church, a laundromat, school, park, playground, or other adult gambling machine business.

S.L.L. 20-21 extended the coverage from up to Dama de Noche St. to up to Orchid St.

Navy, Defense ask court to reverse order to compel them to add documents

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Navy and the U.S. Department of Defense asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Monday to reverse its Feb. 12 order that compels them to add four documents to the record in the lawsuit filed by four environmental groups.

Navy and Navy Secretary Richard V. Spencer, and Defense and Defense Secretary James Mattis, through the U.S. Department of Justice, asked the court to deny the groups' motion to complete or supplement the record in their lawsuit.

DOJ Environmental & Natural Resources Division trial attorney Joshua P. Wilson said the groups asserted at the Feb. 23 hearing that they are not seeking the entire CNMI Joint Military Training record and that they are only seeking documents related to a supposed finding that the training on Tinian analyzed in the 2010 final environmental impact statement and approved in the 2010 record of decision would be inadequate to satisfy the requirements for Marines based in Guam.

But the Navy has made no such finding, according to Wilson.

Wilson said an order requiring the Navy to search for and compile documents within this category would likely require months of work to identify potential custodians, and collect and review documents for content and privilege.

"This process is tantamount to creating a new administrative record," he said.

The groups, Wilson said, should not be allowed under the auspices of a "motion to complete the record" to launch a backdoor attack on the contents of a draft environmental impact statement for a separate non-final agency action that they persuaded the court they were not challenging.

"Such a result would not only undermine the court's ruling denying the United States' motion to dismiss, but would produce an administrative record totally at odds with the law and unrecognizable to the record the Navy actually certified in connection with the Guam relocation," Wilson said.

Last March 5, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona denied the groups' motion for the court to enforce its February 2018 order that compels the U.S. Department of Navy and the U.S. Department of Defense to add four documents to the record in their lawsuit.

Manglona denied without prejudice the motion to enforce.

This means the judge did not grant the groups' request for relief, but allowed them to re-file the motion at a later time.

The groups—Tinian Women Association, Guardians of Gani, Pagan Watch, and the Center for Biological Diversity—are suing the Navy, Navy Secretary Spencer, Defense, and Defense Secretary Mattis over the Navy's decision to relocate 5,000 U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to conduct live-training on Tinian and Pagan.

The groups are suing for alleged violations of the National Environmental Policy Act and Administrative Procedure Act.

The groups claim the Navy and DOD violated NEPA and APA by not coming up with a single environmental impact statement on the relocation efforts and potential construction of live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan.

In their motion to enforce, the groups have requested the court to enforce its Feb. 12 order to compel Navy and Defense to add four documents to the record in their lawsuit over the Navy's decision to relocate 5,000 U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to conduct live-training on Tinian and Pagan.

In their motion to enforce, the groups, through counsel David L. Henkin of Earthjustice, and Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds, asked the court to order Navy and Defense to begin the process of identifying, compiling, and reviewing the documents the court identified as needed to complete the administrative record in this case.

In her Feb. 12 order, Manglona ordered the Navy, Spencer, Defense, and Mattis to compete the administrative record within 30 days.

The four documents refer to the final training needs assessment dated April 2012 and revised in March 2013; final CNMI Joint Military Training Requirements and Siting Study dated January 2013 and revised March 2013; March 14, 2013, Federal Register notice announcing the Navy's intent to prepare the CNMI Joint Military Training; and the draft CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/overseas EIS dated April 2015.

Marriage Encounter sets ME Weekend

Marriage Encounter will be having an ME Weekend on April 27-29, 2018, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Participating couples will reside at the hotel for the entire weekend.

Marriage Encounter Weekends are a special time for a married couple to escape from all distractions. Weekends are for husband and wife couples of all denominations and mixed faiths.

Participants for the Weekend will be asked to check-in by 6:30pm on Friday evening. The presentation starts that evening, continuing all day Saturday and will end by 5pm on Sunday. Participants are asked to eat dinner on Friday prior to registration, and arrange coverage for their family members and pets Friday afternoon through late Sunday afternoon. Worldwide Marriage Encounter makes all hotel and food arrangements. All that is needed to secure a spot is a non-refundable application fee of $100.

At the end, participating couples and religious are asked to consider contributing what they can to defray the costs of their Weekend. Many contribute the full cost of the Weekend, which includes two nights lodging, five meals and all materials, and averages about $500 per couple. All contributions are given as a confidential free-will donation.

The Marriage Encounter Weekend is limited to 15 couples. Couples may submit applications with payment (cash, check payable to Worldwide Marriage Encounter) to Joe & Linda Muña at lbmuna@gmail.com or call 287-2102. Couples may also register online at: https://goo.gl/YpNvd2. Once payment is made, couples will receive a confirmation email with details. ***(PR)***

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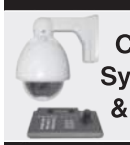
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NMI, Guam drug court professionals undergo training

Drug court professionals in the CNMI and Guam gathered for a two-day on-demand training offered through the Adult Drug Court Training Initiative at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe.

The training, held on March 12–13, focused on expanding knowledge, enhancing skills, and improving outcomes among drug court teams.

The training included Vanessa Price, director of the National Drug Court Institute, lawyer John Haroldson, and Kathleen West DrPH.

Price, a retired Oklahoma police officer, has over 20 years of experience, an associate degree in Applied Police Science from Oklahoma State University and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Price spent over 10 years with the Oklahoma County Drug Court and was instrumental in the development of their drug court program.

Haroldson is the first Latino elected to serve as district attorney in Oregon and has served as a prosecutor since 1988. He has also served as adjunct faculty for the National District Attorneys Association, the Conference of Western Attorneys General, the American Bar Association, the American Prosecutors Association, and Willamette University College of Law.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley M. Bogdan, Dr. Kathleen West, National Drug Court Institute director Vanessa Price, John Haroldson, CNMI Drug Court manager TaAnn Kabua-Demapan, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, Guam Superior Court Judge Anita A. Sukola, and Guam Superior Court Judge Arthur R. Barcinas.

As district attorney, Haroldson has been a strong drug treatment court advocate and has taken an active role promoting a successful mentor program.

West is a public health professional with expertise in public mental health, substance use disorders, and psychotropic medication issues. Her career has focused on intergenerational trauma, maternal and child health, trauma-informed care, and serving at-risk individuals, families, and communities, primarily as they intersect with judicial systems.

She directed the California Drug Endangered Children Resource Center, developing multidisciplinary team interventions with methamphetamine labs in the 1990s and continues work with DEC teams.

The first day of the training included a plenary look at the key components of adult drug courts, best practice standards, team guides to effective drug treatment, and a discussion by West regarding intergenerational trauma. The second day focused on incentives, constitutional issues, and individual team training.

Drug courts and other treatment courts have been researched more than any other justice system intervention in history. They reduce drug use and recidivism, and save taxpayer dollars. This year, treatment courts will help people live lives of recovery, find employment, pay taxes, and give back to their communities.

The CNMI is grateful to have Price come and conduct the training. Special thanks to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in partnership with the National Drug Court Institute, for sponsoring and offering technical assistance that allowed this training to be possible. ***(PR)***

Bordallo visits Guam cadets at USAF academy

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) recently visited Guam cadets studying at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Nine cadets from Guam—Jonathan Toves, Scott Min, Jonah Whitt, Rosalyn Mikel, Xavier Kirksey, Mia Chabanne, Dustin Daleno, Bryan Agustin, and Chloe Gadsden—are attending the Air Force Academy in preparation for their service in the U.S. Air Force. Each year, Bordallo nominates individuals from Guam to attend each of the U.S. Service Academies.

"I am very proud of our cadets from Guam studying at the U.S. Air Force Academy. They are representing Guam well and are working hard to be future Air Force leaders. I enjoyed joining our cadets for lunch and learning of their future goals when they are commissioned as Air Force officers. I thanked them for their dedication to serve our nation and look forward to seeing their successes in the future.

"I also appreciated meeting with the Air Force Academy's superintendent, Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, commandant of cadets Brig. Gen. Kristin Goodwin, and other senior leaders to get a first-hand account of the academy's operations. The Air Force Academy provides an exceptional opportunity for young men and women to become officers, and I am honored each year to nominate exceptional candidates from Guam." ***(PR)***

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR CNMI WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

The Antidegradation Policy of the Water Quality Standards of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands states that the protection and maintenance of the quality of the waters of the Commonwealth are an historic and legal right of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, and that this shall be the public policy of the Commonwealth. Any proposed activity that will impact the waters of the Commonwealth must receive a Water Quality Certification from the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ). In issuing a Water Quality Certification, BECQ must assure that the proposed activity complies with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Water Quality Standards and federal Clean Water Act, will not interfere with the attainment or maintenance of the existing or designated uses of the Commonwealth waters, and that all appropriate and practicable steps have been taken to minimize potential adverse impacts to aquatic life and human health.

Upon receiving an application, BECQ issues a public notification which describes the proposed activity and potential impacts on water quality, aquatic life and human health. A thirty (30) day public comment period will commence from the date of the first publication of the notice.

The Administrator of BECQ may conduct a public hearing to solicit comments on the application if a hearing is requested by the public. BECQ will make a determination for issuing a Water Quality Certification based upon a complete technical review of the application and the public comments received.

BECQ is soliciting comments on the following renewal application for a CNMI Water Quality Certification.

1. APPLICANT:
Saipan World Resort
Henry Hun Kim, General Manager
PO Box 500066
Saipan, MP 96950

2. APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: CNMI Commonwealth Environmental Protection Act (Public Law No. 3-23); CNMI Water Quality Standards, Chapter 65-130

3. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Waterfront area in swim zone, Saipan World Resort

4. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Installation and operation of an "Aqua-Park" consisting of five types of inflatable marine recreational apparatuses described as (1) Super-tramp 23 (floating trampoline); (2) Universal (a hexagon-shaped apparatus for connection purposes); (3) Runway 20 (five floating connection paths); (4) Marine Rock Climbing Tube (a stand-alone, sturdy, flexible climbing apparatus); and (5) Marine Slide Tube (a stand-alone, sturdy, flexible slide apparatus). In addition to the apparatuses, a total of ten concrete anchors will be installed and maintained. Total benthic footprint of all anchors combined is 29 square feet. The Aqua Park will be situated immediate west of the resort within the Saipan Lagoon.

5. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: The project may have direct and cumulative impacts on seagrass and high value coastal resources in the Susupe lagoon.

6. PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES: Monitoring project will include scientific design, protocols, data collection processes, and other aspects to fully conform coastal management program goals and objectives. Elements will include water quality monitoring and marine biological community monitoring, as well as the attempt to document and design appropriate mitigation for any significant adverse impacts to the Saipan Lagoon's environment.

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 21, 2018
5:00 PM, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center, Susupe
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 02/21/2018 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings:
1. **Rezone Application #2018-0706:** Marianas General Clinic dba Marianas Specialty Referral Hospital/Pacific Fertility Institute is requesting to rezone Lots # EA 216-2-1, EA 216-3, EA 833-12, EA 833-13, EA 833-14-1, EA 833-14-R-1, & EA 833-20 in As Perdido (Mango Resort properties), from "Village Commercial" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to operate a full service inpatient hospital.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2018-0748:** Share View Travel Corporation is proposing to occupy 4 existing 2-storey structures and 1 maintenance building with a total of 18 units to operate a Bed & Breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1625 NEW-9-R2 in Gualo Rai. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

C. Communication

D. Old Business: Board decisions on the following applications heard during the Public Hearing conducted on February 21, 2018:
1. Conditional Use Application #2017-3788: Jiang Zhen Group dba Shanghai Guest House. (Motel)
2. Conditional Use Application #2017-4598: Kuan Y. Leung dba KL Auto Shop. (Gas Station, Light Repair)
3. Conditional Use Application #2017-4958: Win Win Construction Co., (Saipan), Inc.. (Institutional Residential)

E. New Business
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement/Public Hearing Procedures)
2. All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) – "Amusement, Outdoor"

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

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‘93 pct. of fed court defendants can’t afford attorney’

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nationally, about 93 percent of defendants in federal court cannot afford to hire their own attorney, according to Criminal Justice Act Committee chair Bruce Berline.

That percentage is much higher in the CNMI.

That means that Criminal Justice Act Committee panel members handle most criminal cases in federal court, Berline said, adding that CJA panel members are the ones who handle federal indigent defense work here.

In the CNMI, Berline said, there is no federal public defender so all indigent criminal matters are handled by CJA panel members.

The role of the CJA panel was one of the subjects taken up at the U.S. District Court for the NMI’s 24th Annual District Conference at Kanoa Resort’s Seaside Hall last Saturday.

When the U.S. Congress created the CJA in 1964, it was initially thought that the program would cost about $250,000 nationwide, with an average attorney spending one hour in the office and one hour in court.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona hands over a symbolic award to Michael Dotts to honor his long service to the Criminal Justice Act panel during the district court’s 24th Annual District Conference held at the Kanoa Resort’s Seaside Hall last Saturday. Also in the photo are CJA Committee chair Bruce Berline and Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Today, Berline said, there are 81 federal and community defender offices serving 91 judicial districts. In 2016, those offices handled 161,540 cases and CJA panel members handled another 80,535 cases.

» Much higher percentage in CNMI

Berline said that attorneys are paid $132 an hour.

The CJA program’s total budget (federal defenders and CJA panel members) is expected to exceed $1.1 billion in 2017.

Berline said their CJA panel is overseen by U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona and Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy along with the CJA standing committee.

Berline said the judges and committee work together to ensure that the attorneys serving on the panel meet certain eligibility requirements, have adequate federal criminal experience, have ample training opportunities, and resources to do their job.

He said attorneys Timothy H. Bellas and Michael Dotts recently resigned from the CJA panel, leaving the panel with nine members.

Right now, Berline said, it is a bit of a slow start for the year as CJA has about four criminal cases filed to date.

Given those unusually extreme low numbers, he said, they are evaluating what size their panel should be.

“Apparently there is very little crime in the CNMI these days,” he said.

Berline encouraged other lawyers to join the panel.

Being on the panel provides a unique opportunity to learn and practice criminal law in the district court.

It also means excellent training opportunities in the U.S. mainland.

Berline said that last year, the panel received some excellent training from experienced defenders on topics such as using theories and themes, writing technique, pretrial practice and evidence, along with other topics.

3 quakes near Farallon de Pajaros, Pagan in past 3 days

Three earthquakes occurred in the past three days near Farallon de Pajaros and Pagan, but no one was reported injured nor was there damage to property.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center did not issue any warnings or advisories, according to the CNMI Emergency Operations Center.

A 4.6-magnitude earthquake happened yesterday at 5:59am some 157.21 miles of Farallon de Pajaros.

On Sunday at 3:35am, a 4.0-magnitude temblor occurred 50 miles south southwest of Pagan.

Before that, on Sunday, at 6:32am, a 4.9-magnitude earthquake jolted an area 69 miles east of Pagan.

Last Wednesday, March 7, a 5.1-magnitude earthquake occurred 19 miles southwest of Pagan.

Five earthquakes recently occurred near Rota and Saipan in a week.

U.S. Geological Survey seismologist Aaron G. Wech earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that the recent earthquakes were the result of the Pacific plate colliding with and sinking beneath the Philippine Sea plate.

Wech said the series of earthquakes are to be expected in tectonic settings like the CNMI. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma’ Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-02
SUBMISSION DATE: April 6, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“PURCHASE OF MICROSOFT OFFICE 2016”
FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/s/JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-OGM-069
SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 16, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“PURCHASE OF THREE (3) PICK-UP TRUCKS, 4WD,
FOUR-FULL DOORS FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPHIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the
Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)
for
Marianas General Clinic dba Marianas Specialty Referral Hospital/Pacific Fertility Institute

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Marianas General Clinic dba Marianas Specialty Referral Hospital/Pacific Fertility Institute is requesting to rezone Lots # EA 216-2-1, EA 216-3, EA 833-12, EA 833-13, EA 833-14-1, EA 833-14-R-1, & EA 833-20 in As Perdido (Mango Resort properties), from “Village Commercial” to “Mixed Commercial” zoning district.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: March 21, 2018
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3:00 pm, March 20, 2018. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

for
Share View Travel Corporation

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Share View Travel Corporation is proposing to occupy 4 existing 2-storey structures and 1 maintenance building with a total of 18 units to operate a Bed & Breakfast establishment.. This use is classified as “Bed & Breakfast” and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1625 NEW-9-R2 in Gualo Rai. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2018
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, March 20, 2018. Please send written comments via e-mail toTherese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/FACILITY-006
SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 02, 2018 TIME: 9:00 A.M.

“TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES
FACILITIES-COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION”

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED–UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/HOSPITAL-007
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 02, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

“MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE – HOSPITAL –
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION”

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Torres soon to fill commission slots

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres wishes to fill the open slots in the Commonwealth Election Commission and the 2nd CNMI Political Status Commission as soon as possible.

Torres

There are currently five members in the supposedly nine-member election commission: chair pro tem Jesus Sablan and Patricia Mareham representing Saipan, Joseph Santos representing Tinian, and Leilanie Manglona and Esther Yatar representing Rota.

Vice chair pro tem Donald Hofschneider resigned from the commission last week.

Torres needs to appoint one more member to the election commission in order to provide an allowance to the quorum of five members during meetings, said CEC executive director Julita Villagomez.

"I was just talking to the CEC…I would probably be appointing someone first thing [this week]," said Torres in an interview last week, without specifying names.

The 2nd CNMI Political Status Commission, which is short of one person after Kimberly King-Hinds declined the appointment, is also in the sights of the governor.

The political status commission convened for the first time last March 1. Former senator Pete P. Reyes was elected chair of the commission.

The commission is tasked with conducting a massive review of the political relationship of the CNMI and the United States, as mandated by Public Law 19-63. Included in this review is determining whether or not the residents of the CNMI are satisfied with the political relationship of the CNMI and the U.S. and includes options such as the possibility of seeking independence, if so recommended by the commission.

The commission would then insert the question into a ballot to allow residents to choose.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW/SWMD-18-RFP-005

ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE MARPI LANDFILL CELL NO. 3 SAIPAN CNMI

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed Proposals for the **Engineering Design Services for the Marpi Landfill Cell No.3**, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated 2004 ed. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **§70-30.3-305** of the regulations.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Esther S. Fleming, Executive Director, at telephone numbers (670)234-5897/5898 or by facsimile to (670) 234-6040.

The RFP Package and Scope of Work is available on or after **March 14, 2018** at the Department of Public Works, Office of the Secretary, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars ($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

A Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the **Department of Public Works Conference Room**, 2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Building on **April 2, 2018**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **April 12, 2018**. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective proposers

SELECTION CRITERIA: This procurement is made in accordance with **§70-30.3-305** of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, 2004 ed. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff – 25%
2. Experience of the firm(s) on similar type projects – 25%
3. Project Approach – 30%
4. Schedule of Completion – 20%

The entire Proposal must not be more than Twenty-Five (25) pages in length. A firm that submits a Proposal as a prime consultant cannot submit as a subconsultant on another Proposal. However, a sub-consultant may submit as sub-consultant on proposals by more than one prime consultant.

The successful Proposer shall be subject to a responsibility determination in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, **§70-30.3-245**.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW18-RFP-005". For Proposers located within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **April 17, 2018**. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, April 17, 2018, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **April 17, 2018** – AND must be received no later than **April 27, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. Fee proposals is solicited; however, this information shall not be considered in the selection of the most highly qualified Firms. Fee proposals may be used in determining a fair and reasonable price.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 • Fax (670) 664-2571

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program is in the process of preparing for submission, its FY 2019-2021 State Plan. In order to address the needs of the community related to child care services, we will be holding Listening Sessions scheduled for the following venues, dates and time:

Kagman Community Center (KCC)	**March 16, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**
Garapan Carolinian Utt	**March 27, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**
Garapan Central Park	**March 29, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**
Multi Purpose Hall	**April 17, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**
San Antonio Basketball Court	**April 19, 2018**	**6:00p.m**
Tanapag Youth Center	**April 30, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**
Tinian Venue: TBD	**May 8, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**
Rota Venue: TBD	**May 10, 2018**	**6:00p.m.**

Please join us and let us hear your comments, suggestions, and recommendations to improve child care in our community.

/s/ Robert H. Hunter
DCCA Secretary

/s/ Maribel S. D. Loste
CCDF Program Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-18-015

LEASE OF OFFICE/WAREHOUSE SPACE FOR CUC POWER DIVISION TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION SECTION, SAIPAN CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from firms for the lease of office & warehouse spaces for CUC Power Division, Transmission & Distribution Section in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed office space may be situated within or adjacent to the warehouse. The office & warehouse must have a loading dock and parking stalls that can accommodate over-sized heavy equipment (e. g. bucket trucks, augers and backhoes). Additionally, the proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-18-015, Lease of Office/Warehouse Space for CUC Power Division Transmission and Distribution Section, Saipan, CNMI"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **April 16, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. Proponents shall comply to all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 28, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC, Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Lee Lieto, CUC, Acting Power Division Manager via email address lee.lieto@cucgov.org, Adrian Reyes, CUC, Power Division Engineer via email address adrian.reyes@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC, Purchasing Technician, Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

Afghanistan's president puts peace on the table

After nearly 17 years of fighting, it is clear that the war in Afghanistan has no military solution at a price either the country or its partners is willing to pay. So President Ashraf Ghani is right to have made a far-reaching peace offer to the Taliban.

That said, if this latest effort is to avoid the sorry fate of its predecessors, Ghani has work to do. The main task for him and Abdullah Abdullah, the chief executive in Afghanistan's shaky unity government, is to bolster the legitimacy of Afghan democracy by setting a firm (and realistic) date for long-delayed parliamentary and local council elections. Afghanistan's partners can support this move by pushing (and helping to pay for) fixes to the country's voter registry, which is also essential for next year's presidential elections.

As for the Taliban, only those factions that are willing to renounce violence, join the political process, and honor the constitutional rights of all Afghans deserve a place at the table. This is nonnegotiable, as Ghani has said. And even if the Taliban spurns Ghani's offer, he has regained the initiative after the Taliban's clumsy effort to seize it.

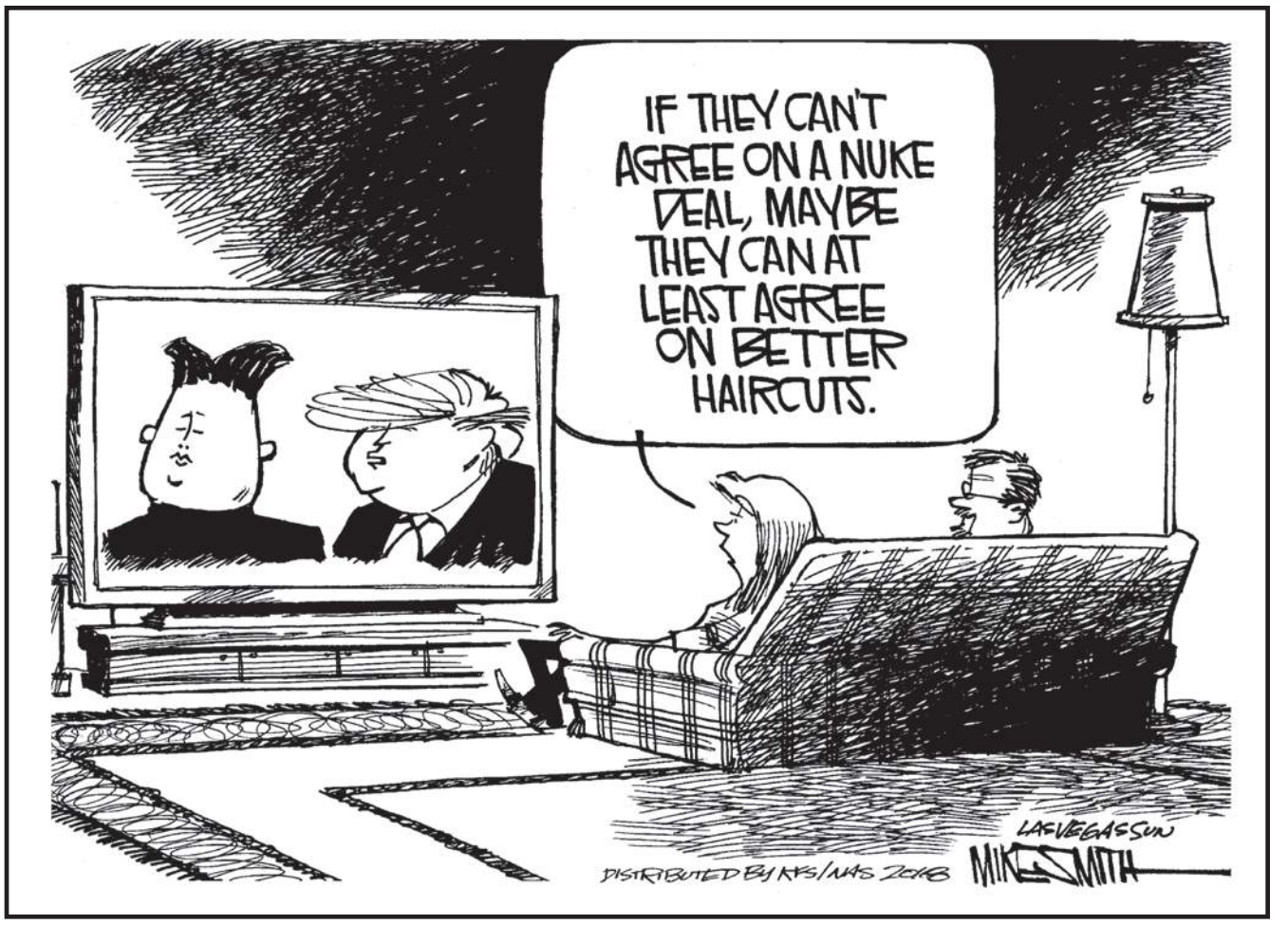
That effort consisted of a rambling open letter last month calling on the American people to pressure President Donald Trump to end the war—an overture that the U.S. and Afghanistan rejected because it sidestepped Ghani's government. The U.S. needs to step up its diplomacy to achieve a settlement, both in foreign capitals and in Afghanistan. Post-Benghazi, restrictive security rules have cocooned U.S. diplomats in their Kabul compound, limiting their ability to understand what's happening on the ground. They need to be allowed to do their jobs, which are inherently dangerous.

More broadly, persuading Pakistan to cut off its support for the Taliban will require a well-considered mix of sticks and carrots, and high-level engagement with neighbors such as China and India. And no solution is possible without the cooperation of Russia and Iran, which have exploited Afghanistan's divisions to advance their own strategic goals.

That kind of diplomacy may call for some unsavory linkages and difficult trade-offs. Ghani has acknowledged as much, at least implicitly, with his offer of a cease-fire and negotiations. He also said he'd be willing to accept the Taliban as a political organization, let it open an office in Kabul, release prisoners, and work to lift sanctions on individual Taliban members.

The Taliban continues to kill civilians, and experience shows it's wise to be skeptical about its intentions. The U.S. strategy of airstrikes and troops remains sound. But a U.S. troop surge did not end the Taliban insurgency half a decade ago, and more bombings and boots on the ground are unlikely to end it now. A political settlement is the only real path to lasting peace.

(c)2018 *Bloomberg News*


IF THEY CAN'T AGREE ON A NUKE DEAL, MAYBE THEY CAN AT LEAST AGREE ON BETTER HAIRCUTS.
LAS VEGAS SUN
DISTRIBUTED BY KFS/NAS 2018
MIKE SMITH

Goodbye to our spiritual rock

By LUIS JOHN DLG. CASTRO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Author's Note: Rewritten from a previous letter sent in January 2010.

One of the memories I have as a kid is of watching a video clip on a cassette tape. The first thing I would see is a big cross being held in procession, the first sound I hear is a choir singing the hymn, *Atan Bithen de Carmen.* At 9 years old, I didn't really think of what it was I was watching so I never bothered to watch the whole thing.

What I do remember is that, after the singing, a man with an unfamiliar accent spoke about Padre San Vitores, a name I remembered from reading history books and my Social Studies classes. I forget what he said but, a few years later, I realized that the guy was a representative of the then-Pope, now Saint John Paul II, speaking to our islands' faithful of the magnitude of the event they were witnessing. The place these remarks were made was the newly elevated Mt. Carmel Cathedral. The date was Jan. 13, 1985, and the occasion was the ordination of Msgr. Tomas Aguon Camacho, the soon-to-be first local-born bishop of the then-new Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

This special event, held on the same day as San Vitores' feast of honor and remembrance as the first missionary to bring Christianity to the Marianas, made me recollect some of the things I remember about this individual. This video was not the first instance I ever came across the man we simply called "Bishop," or "Bishop emeritus" after his retirement seven years ago. I knew him from the first time I asked my parents about a man in scarlet and white whose picture hung on our living room wall for years. The first time I ever met him was as a little kid at a family party as he socialized with the uncle, and seeing him as a familiar face, I shook his hand, unaware that the appropriate gesture was to kiss his hand.

The first Mass I remember attending that he presided over was the funeral of my grandmother a little over 30 years ago. I was always curious about the man and did not get to know him until I became an altar server and over those years, I got more comfortable around his quiet yet strong persona.

At first, at every time I had to serve a Mass for him at our church, I would freeze in place until the master of ceremonies would tell me when to go to pass him his miter or to wash his hands. Whatever butterflies may have been in my system would soon dissipate, just seeing his friendly approach. We served at so many of his Masses that we got over our nervousness.

That experience taught all of us how to be professional in whatever we did. Yet the thing that always made me look at Bishop Camacho in a special way was how, despite his high title, he never forgot that he was still just like us.

He had humble beginnings. He grew up in a big family and helped out at the farm, like we did when we were kids. He had to deal with the growing pains all of us endured, along with all the hardships of surviving when left to be independent. He faced many challenges, even during his time as a seminarian. But through all of the adversities, he never gave up and always kept his focus on what he wanted to accomplish.

For a dignitary, he came off as very approachable and was always eager to meet new faces, ever open to sharing a cup of coffee with friends and never hesitating to greet children and other souls with his familiar yet gentle "hello." Many kids my age found it interesting that he could instantly connect their family lineage just by asking who their parents or grandparents were. Chances are, he may have wed them or possibly baptized them.

Throughout the decades he served as a priest and a quarter century as bishop, he kept close to his heart the importance of being there for our diocese's faithful, especially in times of sorrow. Where some bishops left it to parish priests to officiate funeral rites, Bishop Camacho tried his best to be present at almost every funeral in the diocese, keeping to the island tradition of coming together in times of bereavement—a simple act not only appreciated by the family in mourning but certainly also for the soul he offered prayers for.

We also shared in his sadness, such as when his mother and sister passed away, and when he officiated over the funerals of beloved priests as Msgr. Ben Martinez, Fr. Gary Bradley, and Fr. Roger Tenorio. Men of faith that the bishop always turned to when he needed advice and counsel, traits we have always looked to him for.

Despite being old-fashioned, he never lost the instinct of staying young-at-heart. Where some people his age barely know how to use a cell phone or even an ATM, he constantly kept in contact with his fellow priests by texting or e-mailing them. For many *manhoben*, he was the only bishop they have ever known prior to the ordination of Bishop Ryan Jimenez. And when he was with them, no matter how old he got, the heart that beat inside him still remained vibrant and youthful.

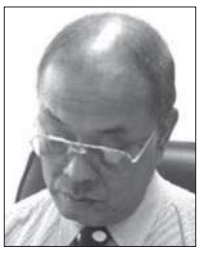
Bishop also made it a point throughout the years to promote awareness of good health. He himself stated that throughout the two decades he was bishop, he was rarely sick, even considering common colds as a "minor malfunction." He braved through many physical difficulties, all with the prayers to God as well as the prayers of the faithful as his strength.

Many times, he stayed steadfast in maintaining peace and harmony in our community by speaking up against vices hurting

See GOODBYE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A solemn tribute



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Two powerful and gifted friends have sailed into the sunset. Bishop emeritus Tomas A. Camacho has gone home to rest in His everlasting palace upstairs after 56 years as the spiritual leader of these isles.

I've had the opportunity to make his acquaintance over the years. Beyond the pulpit, he's also reached out to his people throughout the archipelago as a priest and subsequently as bishop. He's shown us the power of prayers and its benefits, keeping our north star intact amidst the challenges of daily life.

Over the last 15 years he built two churches: St. Jude in As Perdido and Santa Soledad in Kagman. My late friend, RC Cabrera, and I were ever grateful to join the bishop in his mission by donating our land. We're proud of our little accomplishment.

The other is Joaquin "Jack" S. Torres who passed away last week in Honolulu. Torres was an intellectual with depth who proactively pushed issues of substance into the public domain for discussion. I relish meaningful conversations I've had with him, always willing to listen to points of view with razor-sharp analytical mind.

We met in 1978 when he worked as consultant and adviser for the Senate leadership. Later, we converged at a huge private firm to defend the NMI's local control of immigration. Though we lost that battle we reminded Uncle Sam of his obligation to "provide for a progressively higher standard of living" under the Covenant Agreement.

He's made his mark on issues before the first NMI Constitutional Convention during lively debates. I will definitely miss his intellectual acuity, frank point of view, and wonderful sense of humor. Our prayers for our two friends and *si yuus maase`* for all your untiring contributions! You've forged brighter tomorrows for these islands!

Preliminaries: Political pundits have cast the line and hook query: Who would be a formidable tandem to run against incumbent Torres-Palacios?

An observer suggested former governor Juan N. Babauta and Rita A. Sablan as a team. It was an off-the-cuff selection without consultation. So don't hold anything against any of us. If anything, there may be other names equally poised to hooking to a strong partner that could send this year's contest into one heavy tailspin.

He noted Babauta's advantage of having run successfully NMI-wide. His core supporters are ready to carry the banner. His strength is in his organization.

As former commissioner of PSS, Sablan is likely to carry a good number of the education estate, e.g., teachers and administrative staff. She could use the four years in the second post as a stepping stone for larger duties ahead.

The narrative for change is ripe and ready to go. With a cumulative deficit of $1.6 billion and mounting, it seems the driver and passengers are all snoozing at the wheels while humming "…where seldom is heard a discouraging word…"

Failure: The sum of $13.9 million in settlement fine ordered against four construction firms here by the U.S. Department of Labor turns the focus inward, specifically who's on the driver's seat? Has he and passengers been snoozing over the last two years?

Was it a natural or convenient snooze to allow IPI complete exemption and alleged violation of local and federal laws? Remember the inadequate basic infrastructure in the Garapan area?

The violations highlighted in the Murkowski hearing doubled down by alleged collusion in the Bloomberg story are hugely humiliating for the NMI. And we boast of more self-government when we ignore the very requisite issues to strengthen it?

Beyond superficial pronouncements of keeping within the confines of pertinent laws, the hard question we must equally answer forthwith is the extent of erosion in the quality of life here from casino.

Do we dismiss it with simple *mañana*? What about the silent tentacles of prostitution, spread of drug sale and use, labor abuses, serious and fatal worker injuries, violent crimes, family bankruptcy, and exclusion from the economic trickle down from the casino business in Garapan?

$14 million: Wasn't there a recent announcement of a surplus? Or was it prematurely announced when the opposite is the exact case? How is it that the NMI's share of $14 million for Medicaid hasn't been paid over the last two years?

Are Da Boysis clueless what a budget plan entails, revenue projection, obligations and year-end payment? A surplus when the cumulative deficit is around $1.6 billion? Can't pay Medicaid and CUC yet you raised your salaries by 80 percent? How's could CUC buy fuel when it's owed nearly, if not more than, $80 million?

Would your bid for re-election be a shoo-in or are you basically history? I mean, how do you tell the 14,000 employees stuck with poverty income and below that your 80 percent sits well with their difficult familial condition?

History: Haven't we learned from the loss of immigration in 2008? Isn't the impending economic crash tethered to the denial of immigration control? Shouldn't this be the focus of our collective appeal for its reinstatement?

We parrot the single statement that the parole and visa programs are vital for the local economy. Are they really when mirrored against our exclusion in the trickle down effects hailing from casino and associated businesses? Has it improved the buying power of families, most of whom are stuck with poverty income and below levels? Isn't it more an exploitation of the NMI by exogenous businesses whose only goal is to drain what little we have left on the islands?

The exit of Delta Air Lines in May would shut down travel to and from the island out of Japan. Sure, there would be charter flights from China. But would not this be the last door to drain what's left of our tiny economy?

New Medicare cards are coming!

By GREG DILL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Greg Dill is Medicare's regional administrator for Arizona, California, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific territories. You can always get answers to your Medicare questions by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Starting in April 2018, Medicare will mail new Medicare cards to all people with Medicare, to help protect you from identity fraud.

Fraudsters are always looking for ways to get your Social Security number, so we're removing those numbers from Medicare cards to make them safer.

Your new card will have a new Medicare number that's unique to you. The new card will help protect your identity and keep your personal information more secure.

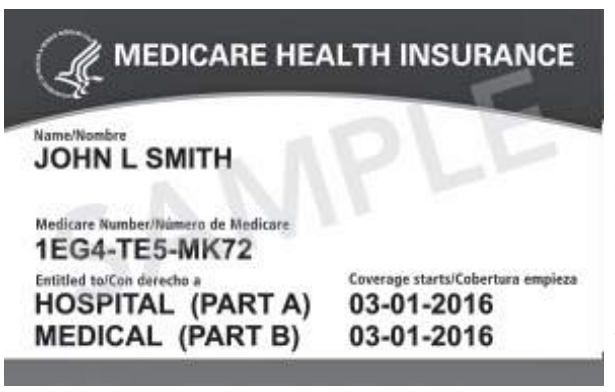
You can start using your new card as soon as you get it. Your Medicare coverage and benefits won't change at all.

Medicare will automatically mail your new card—at no cost—to the address you have on file with Social Security. So make sure your mailing address is up to date.

If your address needs to be corrected, contact Social Security at ssa.gov/myaccount or 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778.

If Social Security has your current mailing address, there's nothing else you need to do to receive your new card.

Mailing everyone a new card will take time. Your card might arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Starting in April 2018, Medicare will mail new Medicare cards to all people with Medicare, to help protect you from identity fraud.

Once you get your new Medicare card, take these three steps to make it harder for someone to steal your information and identity:

1. Destroy your old Medicare card right away.

2. Doctors, other health care providers, and health plans approved by Medicare know Medicare is replacing the old cards. They are ready to accept your new card when you need care.

3. Beware of anyone who contacts you and asks for your new Medicare number, personal information, or to pay a fee for your new card. There are no charges whatsoever for the new cards.

Guard your card. Treat your new Medicare number like you treat your Social Security or credit card numbers. Only give your new Medicare number to doctors, pharmacists, insurers, or other people you trust to work with Medicare on your behalf.

Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask you to give us personal or private information to get your new Medicare card.

Scam artists may try to get personal information (like your current Medicare number) by contacting you about your new card. If someone asks you for your information, or for money, or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your personal information, hang up and call us at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Your new Medicare card will be paper. Paper cards are easier for many providers to use and copy, and they save taxpayers a lot of money. Plus, you can print your own replacement card if you need one.

Carry your new card and show it to your health care providers. Doctors, other providers, and health care facilities will ask for your new Medicare card when you need care.

If you forget your new card, you, your doctor, or other health care provider may be able to look up your new Medicare number online.

If you're in a Medicare Advantage plan (like an HMO or PPO), your Medicare Advantage plan ID card is your main card for Medicare—you should still keep and use it whenever you need care.

However, you also may be asked to show your new Medicare card, so you should carry this card with you, too.

If you don't get your new Medicare card by April 2019, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

GOODBYE

From Page 10

the community, not just a voice in the community but as a citizen affected by what goes on in our islands.

Traits such as this have, in turn, inspired many to be a better individual for our islands. Some people touched by this man have gone on to be civic leaders, pillars of education, as leaders of our government, and leaders of spiritual faith, taught by the strong yet humble man with the credo, "*Fiat Voluntas Tua*" (Thy will be done).

The video where the ordination was recorded on is long gone and so is the picture of the bishop emeritus I remember in our living room. However, the respect that many of us, I included, still remains for the man who went from "goatherd to shepherd" who we bid farewell to last week and lay to rest inside the cathedral he helped build when he was just a 12-year-old altar boy. Though our hearts are in mourning, we also look back with pride at the 25 years he served as our spiritual rock of wisdom, counsel, and faith.

As we say goodbye to him, we commemorate not only the memory of the man but his mission that has inspired many generations of Catholics both young and old to stay true to their faith. Though he now belongs to the ages, he will continue to be in our prayers and for those who shared special memories with him, in our hearts and minds.

So now we say to Bishop Camacho "farewell," but more importantly we say, "Thank you," as a people well served, in appreciation of a life well lived.

Adios yan si yu'us ma'åse bishop emeritus! *Asta ki manali'e hit talo.*

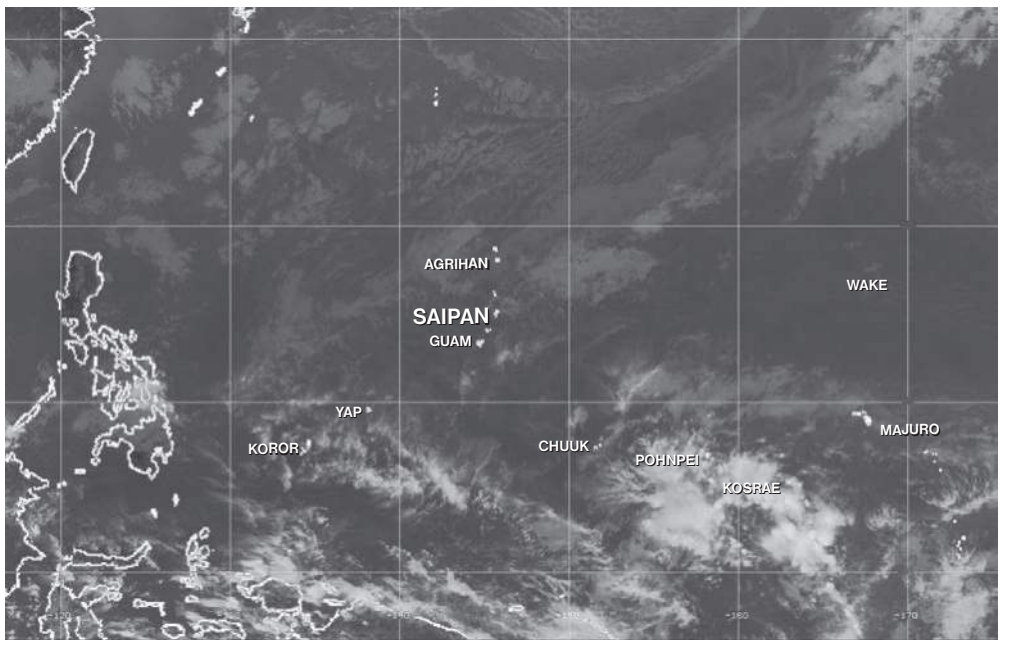
Castro chairs the Saipan & Northern Islands Municipal Council.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:30 AM, TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough could be found just to the east of the Marianas this morning. Satellite imagery show a few clouds associated with the trough. Models do show this trough and push it westward. It will bring mostly cloudy skies to the local area this afternoon through Wednesday. The trough is weak so only expect isolated showers as it passes. Models show a few areas of trade-wind convergence trekking over the local area the second half of the week. While there should be times of partly cloudy skies expect mostly cloudy skies to be the predominant coverage through Friday. Showers should remain isolated.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Showers	86° / 76°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 77°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	83° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	70° / 63°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	52° / 27°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	73° / 66°
Honolulu	Showers	80° / 73°
London	Cloudy	55° / 46°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	64° / 50°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 75°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	70° / 54°
Miami	Mostly Sunny	72° / 56°
New York	Partly Cloudy	43° / 31°
Osaka	Sunny	70° / 57°
Paris	Showers	52° / 43°
Busan	Rain	63° / 45°
Rome	Sunny	61° / 46°
Salem	Sunny	55° / 31°
San Francisco	Showers	53° / 48°
Seoul	Rain	55° / 37°
Tokyo	Sunny	70° / 57°
Washington, DC	Windy	42° / 29°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
6:41 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.72
12:22 PM	LOW TIDE	1.01
5:25 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.69
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:25 AM	6:26 PM
Thursday	6:25 AM	6:27 PM
Friday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Saturday	6:23 AM	6:27 PM
Sunday	6:23 AM	6:27 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	3:59 am	3:43 pm	-
Thursday	4:43 am	4:33 pm	-
Friday	5:25 am	5:24 pm	-
Saturday	6:07 am	6:15 pm	-
Sunday	6:49 am	7:07 pm	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PTSA meeting for Kagman cluster schools

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman cluster of schools will be having a Parents Teachers Students Association meeting on Thursday, March 15, at 5:30pm in the Kagman High School cafeteria. Call the school at 237-3921, 664-4100, or 664-3911 if you have any questions or concerns. ***(PR)***

JKPL hours of operation

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on Saturday, March 24, for Commonwealth Covenant Day and on Friday, March 30, for Good Friday. For more information, visit the www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page. The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm; Saturday, 9am-4pm; and closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays. ***(PR)***

Liberation Day Committee meeting

The 2018 Liberation Day Committee invites all interested individuals to join its organizational meeting on Wednesday, March 14, at 10am at the Saipan Mayor's Office. For more information, call the Saipan Mayor's Office at 234-5997. ***(PR)***

Saipan Community Church turns 70 on Easter Sunday

The CNMI's oldest Christian church is celebrating its 70th year in April 1 and Saipan Community Church senior pastor Josh Slater said a special guest will be on island to mark the milestone.

David Stephens, the son of Rev. Ed Stephens who founded the church in 1947, will attend the church's Easter Sunday celebration. Slater said the younger Stephens hasn't been on island since he was 4.

The Easter Sunday celebration starts at 6am with a sunrise service, followed by breakfast, and at 10am the church will celebrate its 70th year with Stephens, who is expected to also preach.

Saipan Community Church is in Susupe across the Mobil gas station and beside the Susupe Beach Park. ***(PR)***

ASL lessons at public library

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be hosting a Basic American Sign Language class on Friday, March 16, from 4pm to 5pm in the JKPL Children's Room. This class, will teach basic American Sign Language through interactive and engaging activities. In addition, because the class is practical, participants are guaranteed to use their new knowledge in everyday life. ***(PR)***

Water interruption on Tinian on March 17

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on the entire island of Tinian on Saturday, March 17, from 8am to 5pm.

The purpose of the interruption is to complete the installations of two 8-inch gate valves in the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s main distribution water line and to make the necessary system upgrade at the Maui II Pump Station.

As a result of the installations and system upgrade, CUC will be able to supply extra volume of water to the island of Tinian.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates. ***(CUC)***

Power interruption on March 17 and 18

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Saturday, March 17, and Sunday March 18, from 6am to 11am, on Saipan.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize primary lines and allow the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to safely replace eight 45-foot wooden poles with eight concrete poles along Chalan Pale Arnold Road on Lower Navy Hill. The pole replacement task is a sub-project of the CUC Hazard Mitigation Project aimed at strengthening and hardening the power grid through the replacement of 787 wooden poles with concrete ones.

Since the start of the project in September 2015, 345 of 787 wooden poles have been replaced.

No water wells or wastewater lifts station will be affected.

Travelers commuting northbound and southbound on Chalan Pale Arnold Road in the area of Lower Navy Hill are asked to exercise caution when traveling through the working areas.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(CUC)***

Philippine consular outreach

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam will be holding a mobile consular outreach on Saipan on March 13-15, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Note that all e-passport applications require the personal appearance of the applicant. Please wear proper attire (i.e., shirt with collar). For more information and confirmation, call (670)233-6293 and ask for Mel Santos. ***(PR)***

Free business seminar for veterans & spouses

The CNMI Military/Veteran's Affairs Office and the Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business seminar called "Reboot to Business" at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Azucena Room on March 26, from 9am to 4pm, presented by Dennis Kwak, director, Veterans Business Outreach Center of the Pacific. To register, contact Velma Del Rosario at 664-2650 or visit https://sbavets.force.com/s/. ***(PR)***

Military training in Guam and CNMI

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- March 14 from 9am to 9pm
- March 15 from 9am to 11:55pm
- March 16 from 9am to 6pm

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training.

It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

The location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. ***(PR)***

Junior high mock trial on April 7

The 13th Annual Junior High Mock Trial will take place on Saturday, April 7, from 8am to 12pm, at the CNMI courthouse, where middle school students of the CNMI will be arguing a fictitious case of a shoot out between agents of the Drug Enforcement Agency and a farmer. This year there will be 10 schools participating. Schools will be paired in rounds, which will be presided by a judge. The CNMI Junior High Mock Trial is a signature program of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council where students learn about the law and standard courtroom procedures in a non-competitive format. The program is free and open to the public. The CNMI Junior High Mock Trial is made possible through funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and in partnership with the CNMI Public School System and the CNMI Judiciary. For more information, call Council staff at 235-4785. ***(PR)***

UOG to mark 50th Charter Day on March 13

The University of Guam will celebrate its 50th Charter Day on Tuesday, March 13. Opening ceremonies begin at 9am in the center courtyard, and activities run throughout the day until 5pm. The event is open to the public. The theme is "Green is the New Gold" which recognizes the official color of UOG. Each year, Charter Day is the largest public event at the university with nearly 5,000 people visiting the campus. For a list of activities and downloads, visit www.uog.edu/charterday. ***(PR)***

Art-in-the-Park at the AMP

In March and April, the American Memorial Park is partnering with artists and organizations to provide free art classes to the community under the 2nd annual Art-in-the-Park series. All ages are welcome. The Carolinian Affairs Office will teach beading on March 24, from 9am to 12pm. Kimberly Mendiola will teach watercolor painting on April 7, from 9am to 12pm. At the end of the art sessions, on April 21, artwork will be displayed at the Visitor Center for the National Park Week. Space is limited so register soon! To register for a class, visit the American Memorial Park Visitor Center. The center is open daily from 9am to 5pm. For questions contact ranger Brooke Nevitt or education specialist Jovanna Mafnas at 234-7207x2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. ***(NPS)***

SCC now accepting scholarship applications

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for its Educational Scholarship Fund. Hard copies of the Chamber scholarship applications are available at the Chamber office and can also be delivered to schools upon request. Applicants are encouraged to complete the application which are due on or before 5pm on Friday, April 20, 2018, at its office in the Marianas Business Plaza, third floor, Suite 315. The scholarships will be awarded at the Chamber's monthly general membership meeting on June 6, 2018. Chamber scholarship applications are also available on the website, www.saipanchamber.com. For more information call the Chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

HAPPY HOUR FUNDRAISER
COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT DAVID M. APATANG
For Mayor 2018
"Si Dave Again"
WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018
VENUE: MINATCHOM ATDAO
TIME: 5:00 PM – 10:00 PM
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT & RAFFLE PRIZES
David M. Apatang
Mayor of Saipan
Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase & Ghillisow For Your Support!
Paid by the Committee to Re-Elect David M. Apatang, Terry B. Camacho, Treasurer
$25 DONATION

Si Nanå-hu Rebecca Adurwangel

Si Nanå-hu para siempri gi san halom-hu.

Ha adahi yu distiki neni yu'. Si Nåna i

Doktun chetnut yan sinientin hinemlo'-hu.

Si Nånå-hu i muna lålågu i nengkannu' måmi gi gima'.

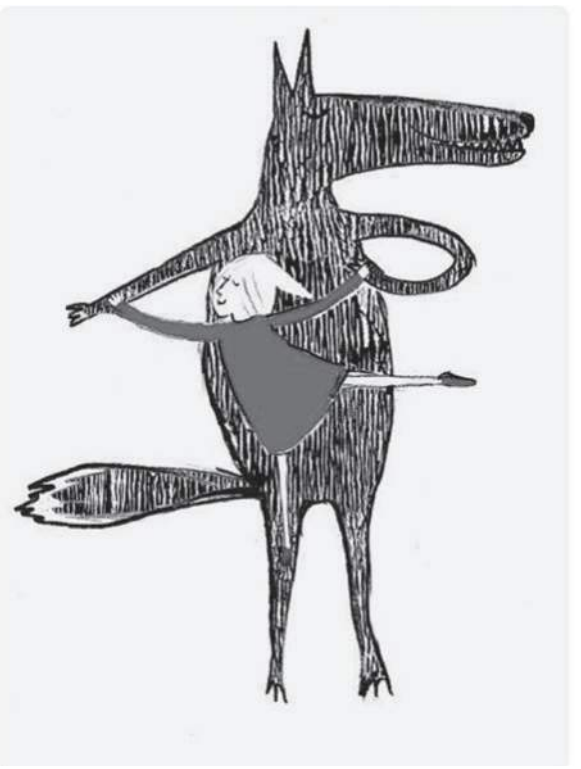
Hu guaiya si nånå-hu. Si nånå-hu solu sumupotta

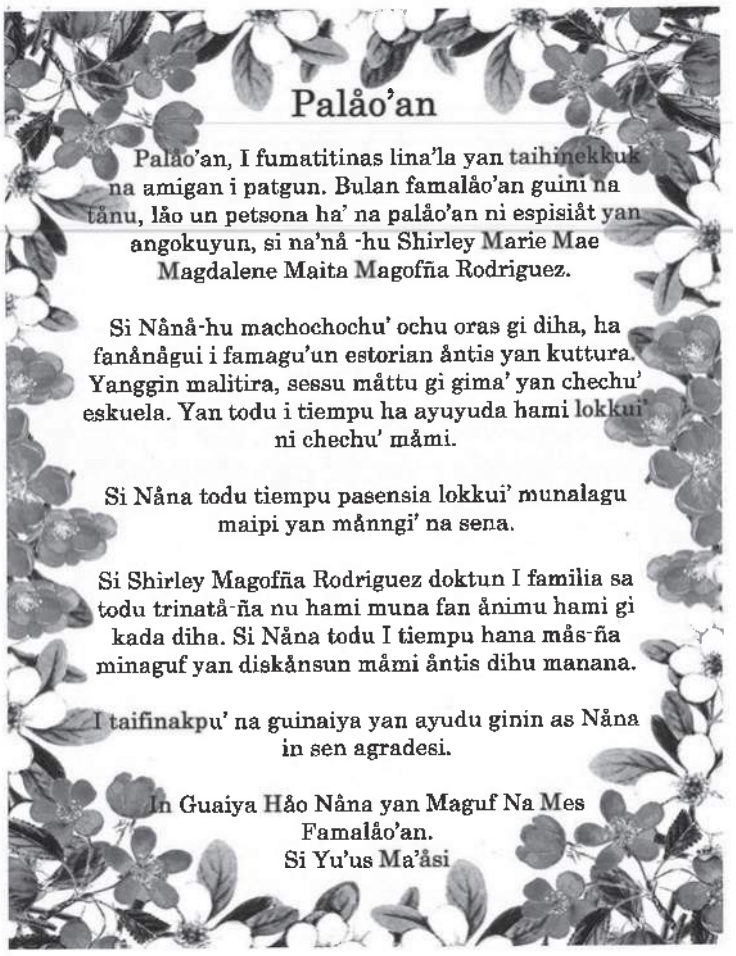
yu' interu lina'låhu. Maseha hu nånåhi si nåna

minakkat, ha guaiya ha' yu' todu i tiempu.

Si Yu'us Ma'åsi Nåna Yan Biba Mes Famalåo'an.

Guåhu Si Jeremiah Sebuu
Sietti Grådu
COVMS - CHA CHA




Palåo'an
Palåo'an, I fumatitinas lina'la yan taihinekkuk na amigan i patgun. Bulan famalåo'an guini na tånu, låo un petsona ha' na palåo'an ni espisiåt yan angokuyun, si na'nå -hu Shirley Marie Mae Magdalene Maita Magofña Rodriguez.
Si Nånå-hu machochochu' ochu oras gi diha, ha fanånågui i famagu'un estorian åntis yan kuttura. Yanggin malitira, sessu måttu gi gima' yan chechu' eskuela. Yan todu i tiempu ha ayuyuda hami lokkui' ni chechu' måmi.
Si Nåna todu tiempu pasensia lokkui' munalagu maipi yan månngi' na sena.
Si Shirley Magofña Rodriguez doktun I familia sa todu trinatå-ña nu hami muna fan ånimu hami gi kada diha. Si Nåna todu I tiempu hana mås-ña minaguf yan diskånsun måmi åntis dihu manana.
I taifinakpu' na guinaiya yan ayudu ginin as Nåna in sen agradesi.
In Guaiya Hão Nåna yan Maguf Na Mes Famalåo'an.
Si Yu'us Ma'åsi

I palao'an

Esti na amåntin palåo'an todu tiempu primera na amigå-hu.

Guiya sini animu un ayuda i famagu'on un possibli gi linala mu yan sina un cho'cho' para suppota i familia.

Yanggen manhayan i cho'cho' mampus brabu para cho'gue i tareha gi gima-hu.

Asagura i famagu'on ya ma cho'chu yan possibli gi eskuela.

I salapi fatinas para nengkanno', magagu yan i kosas gi eskuela yan gi gimahu.

Yanngen hami guaha problema, guiya i palao'an na'i i apaga para masoksok pat i talanga para ekungok.

Masna ha ada'i hinemlu i famagu'on ki guiya yan guiya mamokkat mapput na chalan para bai li'i i famagu'on possibli gi linala.

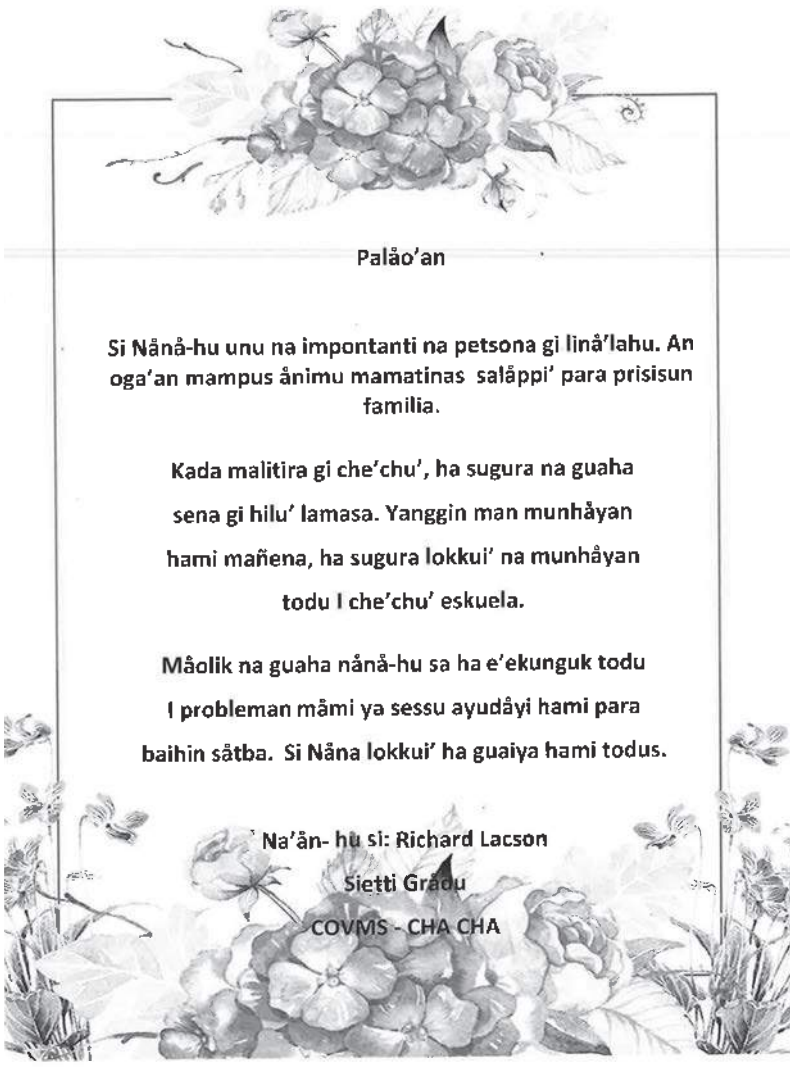
Guiya numeru unu na fineni irida tatde i famagu'on yan maseha hafa masusedi guiya impontante na palao'an-hu.

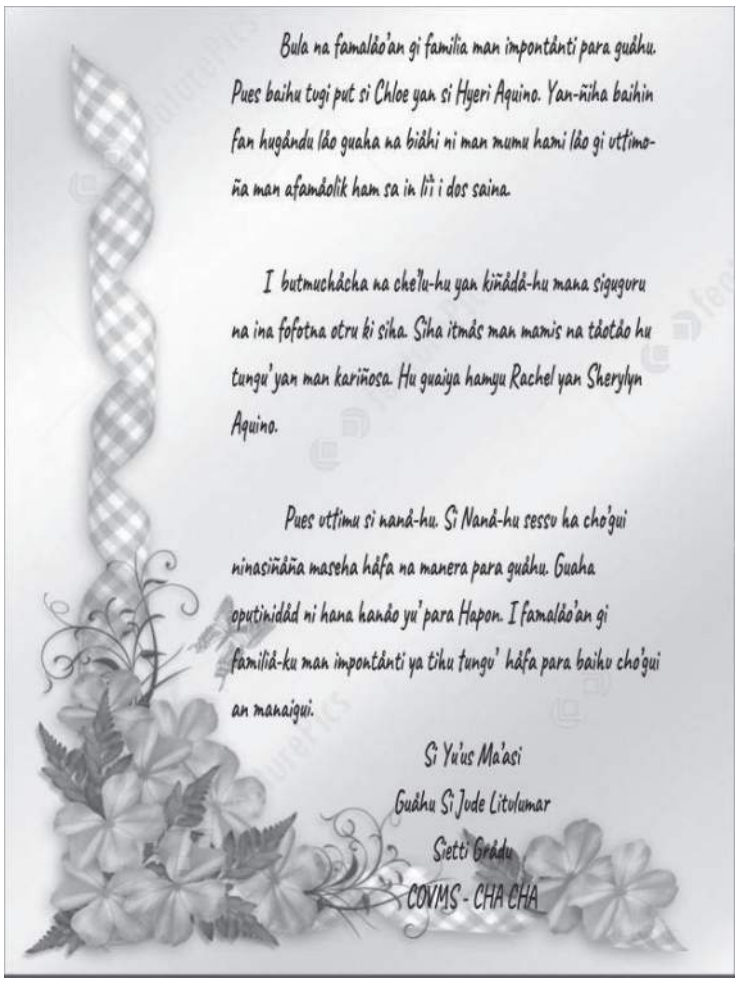
Sin esti na palao'an ti sina hu na taotao gi pa'gu.

Ti sina guaha i apaga para masoksok pat i taotao u para kuentusi gui.

Esti na i mas impontante yan karinosu na rania sigi si nana-hu yan guiya na'an-mu Charlene Quitano.

Name- Juneya Quitano Grade- 7th


Palåo'an
Si Nånå-hu unu na impontanti na petsona gi linå'lahu. An oga'an mampus ånimu mamatinas salåppi' para prisisun familia.
Kada malitira gi che'chu', ha sugura na guaha sena gi hilu' lamasa. Yanggin man munhåyan hami mañena, ha sugura lokkui' na munhåyan todu I che'chu' eskuela.
Måolik na guaha nånå-hu sa ha e'ekunguk todu I probleman måmi ya sessu ayudåyi hami para baihin såtba. Si Nåna lokkui' ha guaiya hami todus.
Na'ån- hu si: Richard Lacson
Sietti Grådu
COVMS - CHA CHA


Bula na famalåo'an gi familia man impontånti para guåhu. Pues baihu tugi put si Chloe yan si Hyeri Aquino. Yan-ñiha baihin fan hugåndu låo guaha na biåhi ni man mumu hami låo gi uttimo-ña man afamåolik ham sa in li'i i dos saina.
I butmuchåcha na che'lu-hu yan kimåddå-hu mana siguguru na ina fofotna otru ki siha. Siha itmås man mamis na tåotåo hu tungu' yan man kariñosa. Hu guaiya hamgu Rachel yan Sherylyn Aquino.
Pues uttimu si nanå-hu. Si Nanå-hu sessu ha cho'gui ninasiñåña maseha håfa na manera para guåhu. Guaha oputinidåd ni hana hanåo yu' para Hapon. I famalåo'an gi familiå-ku man impontånti ya tihu tungu' håfa para baihu cho'gui an manaigui.
Si Yu'us Ma'åsi
Guåhu Si Jode Litulumar
Sietti Grådu
COVMS - CHA CHA

I Palåo'an

Hello people my mom's name is Lynette Yvonne Castro. She is my superhero because she is a mother and a father since my dad passed away.

After school when I go home, I help her with house chores, like washing the dishes. I love her because she is wonderful. When she was young, her family didn't have enough money.

Every day she manages to wake up my sibling's and I so we could go to school. After she drops us, she goes to her sister's house and pick up her sister's baby and he is only 2 years old. I hope she stays in this world because she is my hope.

She makes the best meals and supports me by buying my sibling's and I school supplies and food. My sister Tammie Castro and my brother Anthony Reyes are both working and they also support my mom. She is the best in the whole wide world.

Si Yu'us Ma'åsi todus hamyu. Guåhu si Alfred Gonzales Jr.Il Sais Grådu yu' gi eskuelan COVMS-CHA CHA.

My mom's name is Mellanie Sablan Atalig. My mom is my Super-Wonder-Woman that is in my daily life. If it wasn't for my mom, I wouldn't even be alive right now. My mom can do anything that she can do for my family and I. My mom is the person that cooks for me, helps me with my homeworks, gives me medicine when i'm sick, makes sure to pick me up when I fall.

I am very thankful for my awesome Super- Wonder-Woman that cures my sicknesses and solves all my problems in life. I call myself the luckiest person alive and in the world because I have my Super-Wonder-Woman that I love. I can be mad at my mom almost every time about none sense stuff but I still love her with all my heart. My mom is important to me and my family.

My family and I are happy to have my mom. She is the best Super-Wonder-Woman in the whole entire universe.

Guahu si Kuki Sablan Ikeda
Sais Gradu
COVMS-Cha Cha

My superwoman is my grandma, Rita Resario Camacho. My grandma has raised me when I was a child, up till now she does the best she could do for me. Now that I am old enough to take care of myself I spend almost all the time with my grandma. My grandma is a fun and entertaining person, making the moments I spend with her worthwhile.

When grandma and I are alone in the house I make sure she gets what she needs and wants. I love my grandma no matter what. If she was someone else's grandma I know they would feel the same as I do.

Since my grandma is my superwoman I think it would be best if I stick to taking care of her, before it's too late. I want to give back to my grandma for all the sacrifices she had to make for me and all my other siblings, I want to give her fun and joy.

Si Yu'us Ma'åsi Grandma and Happy Womens Month

Guahu si Zared David Xavier Camacho Nekaifes
Sais Grådu yu'
Gi COVMS - CHA CHA

MY AWESOMAZING MOM

My mom is the most special woman to me. My mom is Annabel Operario Tudela. She cares for me when I am in need and she makes fun of me when I feel the need for good banter.

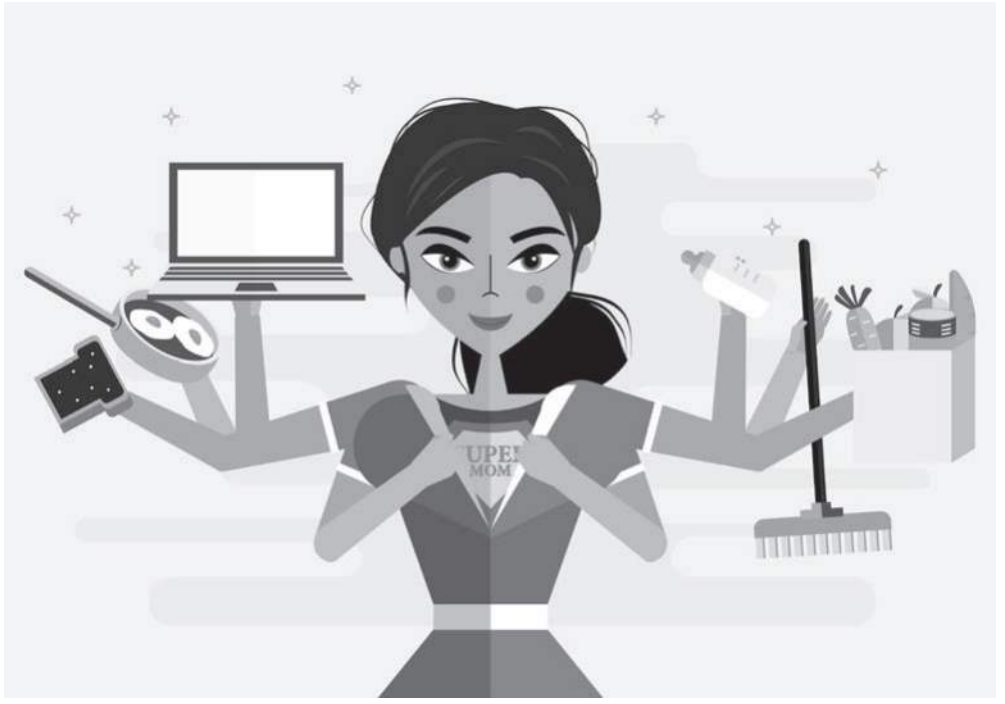
Also, my mom cooks the best soups in my opinion. My mom always checks on me to make sure that I'm ok. Another thing, if I get hurt, my mom overreacts even though I am fine.

Other than that, my mom is a kind hearted person and she makes sure that everything is finished beforehand. If I get in trouble, she puts my dad in charge to lecture me. My mom is a teacher at Kagman Elementary School. She works hard and dedicates herself to provide for our family.

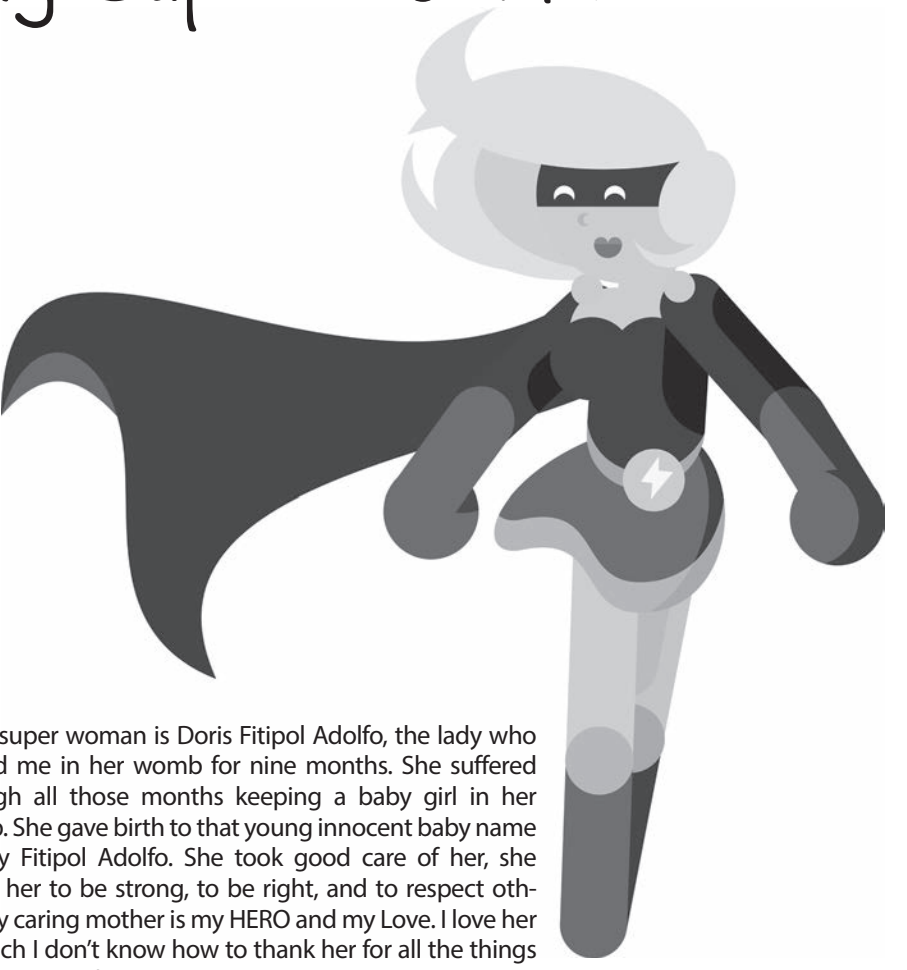
One more thing, my mom loves is taking pictures. She takes pictures wherever we go. It gets annoying sometimes but it's ok with me and my dad. Another thing, my mom is also very supportive of most of my activities. She just makes sure I won't get hurt for safety.

Basically, as long as the activities are on the safe side of things, it's ok with my mom. My mom is a very busy woman but I love her so much.

Guåhu Si Kiku Tudela
Sietti Grådu
COVMS - CHa CHa



My Super Woman



My super woman is Doris Fitipol Adolfo, the lady who carried me in her womb for nine months. She suffered through all those months keeping a baby girl in her womb. She gave birth to that young innocent baby name Britney Fitipol Adolfo. She took good care of her, she raised her to be strong, to be right, and to respect others. My caring mother is my HERO and my Love. I love her so much I don't know how to thank her for all the things she had done for me. Everyday, I wake up to a wonderful smell wondering what's going on as I walk out of my room, my mother calls my name setting food on the table for each, and every one of her children's, so as I walk in the kitchen I give that beautiful mother of mine a kiss on the cheek. Mom is such a special word I've ever heard. A toast to you. Above all the rest Mom, you're so special you are simply the BEST. You're the one I won't forget Mom, and in case I die before you do, I'll go to heaven and wait for YOU!

Guåhu si Britney Fitipol Adolfo
Sais Gradu
COVMS-CHACHA

My Super Woman

My mom's name is Dina Rabago Aguon. She's my superhero because she loves cooking for me and provides a house that I can live in. My mom is 54 years old, her birthday is on Feb. 17, 1964. I take care of my mom, I like taking her out to lunch or dinner, or sometimes I cook for her. On her birthday I made her breakfast in bed because she always cooks for me when I'm hungry. Her dishes are really good, so I tell her "it's better than the restaurants here on Saipan."

Her love and care is the best because when I'm sick, she'll take her leave at work and will take care of me. Another thing is that even when she's sick, she still goes out of her way and make a living for us.

Sometimes, she falls asleep after mowing the lawn but she always wakes up to cook my dinner. But the next day I see to it that I take her out because she did everything in the yard. I take her to where ever she wants to eat. We usually go to Kanoa Resort because she loves the food there. She loves me so much that she will buy anything that I want like a laptop, tablet and more. Some people may say that I'm a bit spoiled but I'm not it's just my mom loving me.

Guahu si Tevin Dean Aguon Sais Gradu Covms-Cha Cha

I Palåo'an

Si Elizabeth Romolor

My mom is a very special person in my life! I love her, and if I had food for every time she made me smile, I'd be overweight. She is super-supportive of me, because she wants me to enjoy myself! Because of her, I laugh at things I didn't know were funny at first, and she is strict because she cares for my safety and health.

To me, my mom isn't just my mom. She's my dictionary, calculator, and even my alarm clock. My mom is special to me in so many ways, and it isn't just her cooking! Even if she hasn't done it alone, my mom has done a great job at raising me and teaching me to be who I am today!

She taught me to be kind, responsible, and hardworking in school. Now, I realize that she was also talking about herself without realizing it! Through my perspective, Elizabeth Romolor is a role model and is also irreplacable.

Si Yu'us Ma'åsi MOM!!
Guåhu si Jasmine Romolor
Sietti Grådu
ChaCha Ocean View Middle School

Here's how to prevent the next school shooting, experts say

After Parkland, there have been many calls to make schools a "harder target" — for example, by arming teachers. But there's a decent amount of research out there on what actually makes schools safer, and most of it doesn't point to more guns.

On the Friday after the deadly shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida, Matthew Mayer, a professor at the Rutgers Graduate School of Education, got an email during a faculty meeting.

The email was from Shane Jimerson, a professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Both specialize in the study of school violence.

That email led to nearly two weeks of long days, Mayer says, for some of the leading experts in the field. On conference calls and in Google docs they shaped a concise, eight-point "Call for Action To Prevent Gun Violence In The United States of America."

About 200 universities, national education and mental health groups, school districts, and more than 2,300 individual experts have signed on to support this document in the weeks since.

Their topline message: Don't harden schools. Make them softer, by improving social and emotional health.

"If we're really talking about prevention, my perspective is that we should go for the public health approach," says Ron Avi Astor at the University of Southern California, who also helped draft the plan.

A public health approach to disease means, instead of waiting for people to be rushed to emergency rooms with heart attacks or the flu, you go into the community: with vaccinations, screenings, fruits and vegetables, walking trails and exercise coaches. You screen and regulate environmental hazards, like a nearby polluting factory. You keep watch on reported cases of illness, to stop a new outbreak in its tracks.

A public health approach to school shootings, Astor explains, would be much along the same lines.

Instead of waiting for people to, again, be rushed into emergency rooms, you go into the community with preventive resources. You do your best to lower the background levels of bullying and discrimination. You track the data and perform what is called "threat assessments" on potential risks.

And, these experts say, you remove the major "environmental hazard" that contributes to gun violence: the guns. The eight-point plan calls for universal background checks, a ban on assault-style weapons, and something called Gun Violence Protection Orders: a type of emergency order that would allow police to seize a gun when there is an imminent threat.

What sets this call to action apart from other policy proposals is not gun control, however, but the research-based approach to violence prevention and response. This is a long haul, say the experts, not a quick fix.

"No matter what you try to do by just hardening the target, we've learned that having the armed officers isn't necessarily going to stop it," says Matthew Mayer at Rutgers. "Having the metal detector or the locked doors isn't going to stop it. The hard work is a lot more effort. You'd better start thinking in a more comprehensive manner about prevention instead of reacting."

Prevention: The first step

School climate may sound fuzzy or abstract. It means the quality of relationships among the students and the adults in a school. It's affected by the school's approach to discipline and behavior, the availability of professionals like counselors and social workers, as well as any social-emotional curriculum taught in the classroom.

School climate, in turn, affects students' mental and emotional health and academic success. And research by Astor and others has consistently found key factors that can make schools safer: cultivate social and emotional health, connect to community resources and respond, particularly, to troubled students.

Why does this matter? Well, for one thing, the very kids who bring weapons to school are more likely to report being bullied or threatened themselves. They may be fearful of gang violence and feel a need to protect themselves on the way back and forth to school.

Or, they may be individually ostracized and aggrieved. This is true not just in the United States, says Astor, but in "Kosovo, Canada, Chile, Israel, the kids who bring weapons to school are reporting tons of victimization."

So, if you devote resources to shutting down bullying, discrimination and harassment, there is a chance to de-escalate conflict before it starts.

And research shows that school climate measures really work. In fact, there has been a steady downward trend in bullying and harassment over the past decade, which Catherine Bradshaw at the University of Virginia attributes in part to evidence-based social and emotional measures.

The witnesses

There is a second reason a better school climate can cut down on violence. It's what Astor refers to as the role of the witness.

He again cites the example of California, which does a comprehensive annual survey. There, 20 to 30 percent of students above the elementary level consistently report seeing a weapon of some kind at school at least once during the year. That's conservatively more than half a million students, just in that one state.

Moreover, based on the survey, at least 125,000 of these students in California were actually threatened or injured by a weapon on school grounds. This includes things like knives and nunchuks as well as guns.

My Wonderful Life

By Christino Benavente

When I was a baby,
I was crying all the time,
I thought it was because I was lonely,
My brother made me calm,
That's the reason why I love Tommy.

When I was in Kindergarten,
I love watching TV,
Eating snacks when watching Ben Ten,
I had a lot of friends,
One of them was Arden.

Now that I am in 4th Grade in GTC
I had many tasks as a leader
One of them is to hold the door,
I love Ms. Xiao's class,
It's not such a bore.

By Samantha Winegardner

When I was a baby,
I screamed so loud that you can hear from a mile,
I laughed a lot and like to smile,
I like to play raspberries in my baby food.
Making it spay all over the wall and my mommy.

When I was in Kindergarten,
I learned how to read letters.
I learned how to spell words like juice.
I learned how to count numbers.
I learned how to tie my shoes.

Now that I am in 4th Grade in GTC
My work in school is harder,
I have to work faster,
I have to listen carefully,
I have had a great time recently.

By Alexander Deleon Guerrero

When I was a baby I was a little lazy,
I am happy when my dad gave me Hi-C,
I like strawberries and pears,
I also like to climb up the stairs.

When I was in Kindergarten,
I think the work is easy.
I learned four seasons,
I like to play in the recess.
I like to have a friend who is nice.

Now that I am in 4th Grade in GTC
The books that I read with chapters,
But I think I am smarter,
I can't wait to be a 5th grader,
Because I want to see what is harder.

By Rayanna Cruz

When I was a baby
I used to have rosy cheeks,
My mom said it is bright and pink,
Just like a Plumeria flower on the tree.
Families near and far would adore me.

When I was in Kindergarten,
I went to school in Garapan
On the island of Saipan,
I had a nice teacher and many friends,
I had a lot of fun of being in the beach under the sun.
I love to go to school because it is cool.

Now I am in 4th grade in GTC,
I grow older and I am bolder.
I learned new things faster,
I enjoyed playing with my friend Maria,
I am excited to taste the food in the Cafeteria.

DYS, DPS work to strengthen child passenger safety

The Division of Youth Services has recently been focused on the Department of Public Safety's Highway Safety Program to provide basic car seat safety training to all caseworkers who transport children on a daily basis under their various units/programs.

DYS administrator Vivian Sablan said that talks about the transportation needs of clients who are removed from home for protective custody is often absent.

"We want to ensure that our caseworkers are given all the necessary training to address all components of family services," said Sablan. "We deal with a very vulnerable population and we want to maximize the quality of these services since they are primarily for school-aged children to and from school, for those temporarily residing at the shelter, for client supervised or unsupervised visitations, court hearings and appointments."

Sablan said this addresses a critical component to aid in fulfilling family service planning.

According to Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter, the training has become a productive partnership with DPS, adding an additional layer for youth safety.

"The Division of Youth Services has such a broad responsibility to strengthen families and an increased duty to protect children and our youth. In addition to life skills, and addressing issues with child abuse and neglect, youth violence, and juvenile delinquency, we have to be sure that our personnel are given the proper training when they must intervene. We are very grateful for the training opportunity and highly recommend that parents and guardians do their part with child passenger safety and promote strategies that reduce the chances of fatal injuries," Hunter said.

The CNMI averages 2,000 automobile crashes annually, said Public Safety Commissioner Robert A. Guerrero.

"We want to emphasize that keeping children safe from harm is everyone's responsibility which is why our Highway Safety Program continues its outreach campaign for parents and the community. We continue to survey the CNMI's child restraint use and have found that only 65 percent of those surveyed last year were compliant. This clearly shows that a large number of children are still unsafely transported in a motor vehicle. One way to combat this is through agency collaboration to improve child passenger safety and training," Guerrero said.

With the completion of the training, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres commended DPS and DYS for their initiative and contributions of car seats and booster seats for the youth.

"I commend DYS and DPS for working together to certify technicians within the department and in leveraging resources for building program capacity. As a father of six children, I've come to realize that the safety of our children in a vehicle should not be undermined. By working together, we can eliminate these preventable deaths and injuries. I remain committed to educating parents and caregivers, including government personnel about the best ways to keep kids safe while traveling in cars, no matter how short or long the trip. I am pleased to know that our youth are in good hands and I believe that these trainings and resource sharing will go a long way in empowering public services," Torres said. ***(PR)***

Domenech provides USVI with $2.8M

WASHINGTON—Doug Domenech, the U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs, met yesterday with U.S. Virgin Islands and Federal Emergency Management Agency officials in St. Croix to review hurricane rebuilding efforts.

He provided $2.8 million in federal grants for rebuilding infrastructure and utilities.

The funds made available will support upgrades at public schools, road rehabilitation in St. Croix, and meter reading for the Water and Power Authority.

"Hurricanes Irma and Maria greatly tested the resiliency of Virgin Islanders but they are stronger than ever," said Domenech. "My team and I visited this week with public and private sector officials on a wide range of issues including how to provide abundant and affordable energy to consumers for the future. [Interior] Secretary [Ryan] Zinke continues to be a strong advocate for Virgin Islands' needs at the highest levels of the Trump administration."

Domenech met various other officials over his two-day visit to the territory, with site visits at the Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center on St. Croix, and the Virgin Islands National Park on St. John. Office of Insular Affairs policy director Basil Ottley, who has accompanied the assistant secretary to the territory, will remain for recovery meetings through March 24.

The $2.8 million in federal funds presented yesterday include $1.5 million for:

1) structural repairs at U.S. Virgin Islands public schools to include mechanical, electrical, and plumbing upgrades;

2) $1.2 million toward rehabilitation of roads in Christiansted on St. Croix.

This funding was made available through the Capital Improvement Programs of the Office of Insular Affairs in the Department of the Interior.

In addition, $178,996 was provided to the VI Water and Power Authority for Hurricane Recovery Meter Reading Assistance.

Hurricanes Maria and Irma destroyed nearly 90 percent of electric distribution services across the territory and completely destroyed the automated meter infrastructure, cutting electricity, and simultaneously bringing collection and revenues to a halt.

With critical assistance from FEMA, WAPA has conducted more than $4 million in component repairs for systems and restored electric transmission and distribution to more than 98 percent of the territory.

Until automated reading capabilities are fully restored, OIA Technical Assistance is being provided to facilitate manual readings for WAPA for the next three months.

There are more than 41,000 meters across the three islands of St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix. The funding will provide an important jumpstart to much-needed revenue streams through timely billing and collections. ***(PR)***

REVIVING TRADITION

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Seafaring Traditions Program's John Castro, Oliver Salas, and Jonathan Ogo Jordan work on the canoe house at the Civic Center Beach in Susupe last week. The program is not out to compete with the 500 Sails organization that aims to build 500 traditional canoes by 2030. DCCA Secretary Robert H. Hunter said the program under the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture aims to perpetuate the Chamorro and Carolinian traditional skills of open-ocean seafaring, canoe building, and celestial navigation.

MARK RABAGO

BOARD MEETING

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther Muña, left, confers with CHCC chief financial officer Derek Sasamoto, center, and CHCC program director Warren Villagomez during Wednesday night's board of trustees meeting at CHCC.

MARK RABAGO

AMP offers paid youth internships

This summer, the American Memorial Park will once again host the Youth Conservation Corps program and will be accepting applications through April 27 by close of business.

The Youth Conservation Corps is a well-balanced work-learn-earn program that develops an understanding and appreciation in participating youth of the nation's environment and heritage. YCC participants will engage in a wide variety of conservation and park operations activities that will teach them about the park and the National Park Service's mission to protect special places for all.

The park will hire between two to six youth in the YCC program at the CNMI minimum wage. The program will run for up to eight weeks, from June 11 to Aug. 4, with participants working up to 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. Enrollees must be at least 15 years of age by June 11, 2018, and no older than 18 on Aug. 4, 2018. To apply, applicants must fill out an application and if not 18 years of age, have a parent's or guardian's signature. Selected applicants will be contacted and program participants will be selected at random. Participation will be dependent on available funding.

Applications can be picked up Monday through Friday, from 9am through 5 pm, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center. For directions to the Visitor Center contact park rangers at (670) 234-7207 Ext. 2020. For questions about the YCC program, contact Theo K. Chargualaf at (671) 477-7278, Ext. 1005 or email address at: theo_chargualaf@nps.gov. ***(NPS)***

Funeral for Bishop Emeritus Camacho

Life & Style

Givenchy, designer of Hepburn's little black dress, has died

PARIS (AP)—French couturier Hubert de Givenchy, a pioneer of ready-to-wear who designed Audrey Hepburn's little black dress in "Breakfast at Tiffany's," has died at 91.

The house of Givenchy paid homage to its founder in a statement as "a major personality of the world of French haute couture and a gentleman who symbolized Parisian chic and elegance for more than half a century."

"He revolutionized international fashion with the timelessly stylish looks he created for Audrey Hepburn, his great friend and muse for over 40 years," the house of Givenchy said. "His work remains as relevant today as it was then."

Along with Christian Dior, Yves Saint Laurent and mentor Cristobal Balenciaga, Givenchy was part of the elite cadre of Paris-based designers who redefined fashion after World War II.

Givenchy, speaking last year at an exhibition of his creations at the City of Lace and Fashion in Calais, said "too much artifice" detracts from clothing.

"A piece of material has a life. You must never upset it, if you want the material to speak," he said.

A towering man of elegance and impeccable manners, he forged close friendships with his famous clients, from Hollywood screen sirens of the likes of Elizabeth Taylor and Lauren Bacall to women of state, including Jackie Kennedy and Princess Grace of Monaco.

Born into an aristocratic family in the provincial city of Beauvais on Feb. 21, 1927, Givenchy struck out for Paris in his late teens.

Couturier Jacques Fath hired Givenchy on the strength of his sketches. He spent two years learning the basics of fashion design, from sketching to cutting and fitting haute couture styles.

After apprenticing with other top names, Givenchy founded his own house in 1952.

His debut collection ushered in the concept of separates—tops and bottoms that could be mixed and matched, as opposed to head-to-toe looks that were the norm among Paris couture purveyors.

Working on a tight budget, Givenchy served up the floor-length skirts and country chic blouses in raw white cotton materials normally reserved for fittings.

"Le Grand Hubert," as he was often called for his 6-foot, 5-inch (1.96 meters) frame, became popular with privileged haute couture customers, and his label soon seduced the likes of Gloria Guinness, Wallis Simpson and Empress Farah Pahlavi of Iran.

But the client whose name would become almost synonymous with the house was Audrey Hepburn, whom he met in 1953, when he dressed her for the romantic comedy "Sabrina."

Legend has it that Givenchy—told only that Mademoiselle Hepburn would be coming in for a fitting—was expecting the grand Katharine Hepburn. Instead, the diminutive Audrey showed up, dressed in cigarette pants, a T-shirt and sandals.

Thus began a decades-long friendship that saw Givenchy dress the star in nearly a dozen films, including the 1961 hit "Breakfast at Tiffany's." The sleeveless black evening gown she wore in the movie, complete with rows of pearls, elbow-length gloves and oversized shades, would end up becoming Givenchy's most famous look.

In this July 11 1995 file photo, French designer Hubert de Givenchy is applauded by his models after his 1995-96 fall-winter haute couture fashion collection in Paris. AP

Givenchy legacy: Hepburn's little black dress, and much more

PARIS (AP)—In her sleeveless black gown, with rows of pearl at the neck and oversized sunglasses, Audrey Hepburn's Holly Golightly defined understated elegance. Hers was the iconic little black dress.

It was the work of Hubert de Givenchy, the French couturier who, along with Christian Dior, Yves Saint Laurent and Cristobal Balenciaga, redefined fashion in the wake of World War II. Givenchy was the epitome of Paris chic. His death at age 91 was announced Monday.

A towering man of elegance and impeccable manners, Givenchy forged close friendships with his famous clients, including Elizabeth Taylor, Lauren Bacall, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Princess Grace of Monaco.

But none were as close to him or the fashion house that bore his name as Hepburn, whose simple chic became a kind of shorthand for the label. Besides the little black dress from the 1961 hit "Breakfast at Tiffany's," Hepburn wore Givenchy's designs in nearly a dozen other movies, as well on the red carpet and also in real life.

Born Feb. 21, 1927, in the provincial city of Beauvais, north of Paris, Givenchy was raised by his mother and maternal grandparents after his father, a business executive and amateur pilot, died when he was a toddler.

His grandfather, an administrator of a tapestry workshop in Beauvais, cultivated the young Givenchy's appreciation of the arts and honed his aesthetic sensibility.

Early on, Givenchy set his sights on fashion—a career choice that left his family cold. After high school, he acceded to family pressure and joined a notary firm in Beauvais, but it didn't last long.

Givenchy struck out for Paris in his late teens, in the wake of World War II.

Couturier Jacques Fath hired Givenchy on the strength of his sketches and he spent two years learning the basics of fashion design, from sketching to cutting and fitting haute couture styles.

After a brief stint at the house of Piguet, he joined celebrated Italian designer Elsa Schiaparelli in 1949, leaving her to found his own house in 1952.

Headquartered in a small room off the Parc Monceau, well off Paris' famed Golden Triangle, the house of Givenchy proved an instant success.

His debut collection ushered in the concept of separates—tops and bottoms that could be mixed and matched, as opposed to head-to-toe looks that were the norm among Paris couture purveyors.

Working on a tight budget, Givenchy served up the floor-length skirts and country chic blouses in raw cotton materials normally reserved for fittings.

The collection's body-conscious shapes created a sensation among the fashion press and buyers used to the wasp-waisted, full-skirted "New Look" pioneered by Dior. Givenchy's "Bettina blouse"—a concoction of white broadcloth with tiers of eyelet ruffles at the sleeves, which was named for his favorite model and publicist, Bettina Graziani—would go down in fashion history.

In 1955, Givenchy relocated to the tony Avenue George V, across the street from his idol, Spanish-born designer Balenciaga.

"Balenciaga was my religion," he told fashion trade publication Women's Wear Daily in 2007. "There's Balenciaga and the good lord."

"Le Grand Hubert," as he was often called for his 6-foot, 5-inch (1.96 meters) frame, became popular with privileged haute couture customers, among them Gloria Guinness, Wallis Simpson and Empress Farah Pahlavi of Iran.

But the client whose name would become almost synonymous with the house was Hepburn, whom he met in 1953, when he dressed her for the romantic comedy "Sabrina." Legend has it that Givenchy—told only that Mademoiselle Hepburn would be coming in for a fitting—was expecting the grand Katharine Hepburn. Instead the diminutive Audrey showed up, dressed in cigarette pants, a T-shirt and sandals.

That encounter marked the start of a decades-long friendship that saw Givenchy dress the star in nearly a dozen films, making her the brand's de-facto ambassador.

In this July 26, 2006, file photo, model Romilly Collins wears the black Givenchy dress made for actress Audrey Hepburn in the classic 1961 film "Breakfast at Tiffany's" in central London. AP

Levine fired by Met after it finds evidence of sexual abuse

NEW YORK (AP)—James Levine, whose 46-year career at the Metropolitan Opera established him as a towering figure in classical music, was fired by the company on Monday after an investigation found evidence of sexual abuse and harassment.

Levine made his Met debut in 1971 and became one of the signature artists in the company's 135-year history, conducting 2,552 performances and ruling over its repertoire, orchestra and singers as music or artistic director from 1976 until he stepped down two years ago due to Parkinson's disease. He became music director emeritus and remained head of its young artists program but was suspended on Dec. 3 after accounts in the New York Post and The New York Times of sexual misconduct dating to the 1960s.

The Met hired former U.S. Attorney Robert J. Cleary, now a partner at Proskauer Rose, to head its investigation, and the company said more than 70 people were interviewed.

"The investigation uncovered credible evidence that Mr. Levine had engaged in sexually abusive and harassing conduct both before and during the period when he worked at the Met," the company said in a statement. "The investigation also uncovered credible evidence that Mr. Levine engaged in sexually abusive and harassing conduct towards vulnerable artists in the early stages of their careers, over whom Mr. Levine had authority. In light of these findings, the Met concludes that it would be inappropriate and impossible for Mr. Levine to continue to work at the Met."

The Met did not release specifics of the evidence.

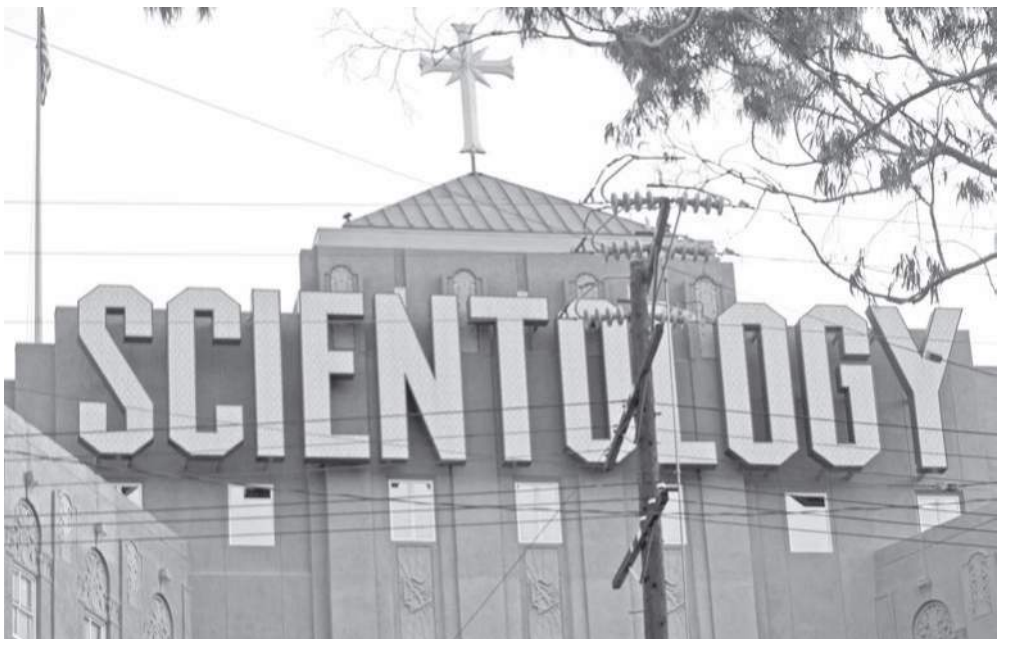
Tim Fox of Columbia Artists, who represents the 74-year-old conductor, did not respond to an email seeking comment.

Levine has not been charged with any criminal offense. The Lake County state's attorney's office in Illinois said in December it investigated a sexual abuse allegation of misconduct dating to the 1980s but concluded "no criminal charges can be brought" and cited multiple factors, including "the relevant age of consent in Illinois at the time of the alleged incidents."

Levine's downfall follows that of 81-year-old Charles Dutoit. After The Associated Press reported sexual assault allegations against him, the Swiss conductor resigned as artistic director and principal conductor of London's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and engagements were canceled at numerous orchestras. Dutoit has denied the allegations.

The Met said in its statement "the investigation also found that any claims or rumors that members of the Met's management or its board of directors engaged in a cover-up of information relating to these issues are completely unsubstantiated."

Church of Scientology launches TV channel



AP

This Aug. 25, 2016, photo shows the Scientology Cross perched atop the Church of Scientology in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Church of Scientology launched its own TV channel with a vow that it will be candid about every aspect of the church and its operations but isn't seeking to preach or convert.

"There's a lot of talk about us. And we get it," church leader David Miscavige said in introducing the first night of programming Monday. "People are curious. Well, we want to answer your questions. Because, frankly, whatever you have heard, if you haven't heard it from us, I can assure you we're not what you expect."

Founded in 1954 by science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard, the church teaches that technology can expand the mind and help solve problems. It has about 10 million members worldwide.

Scientology is an "expanding and dynamic religion and we're going to be showing you all of it," he said, from the "spiritual headquarters" in which he was standing—a Florida-based, corporate-looking building— its churches around the world and a behind- the-scenes look at its management.

The channel also will explore the life and philosophy of Hubbard, whom Miscavige called "a true-to-life genius."

With all that the channel intends to present, he said, "let's be clear: We're not here to preach to you, to convince you or to convert you. No. We simply want to show you."

The first hour offered a slickly produced taste of the series to follow from an in-house studio, including "Meet a Scientologist," ''Destination Scientology" and the three-part "L. Ron Hubbard: In His Own Voice." The channel is available on DIRECTV, AppleTV, Roku, fireTV, Chromecast, iTunes and Google Play.

Miscavige didn't directly address critics, but Scientology doesn't lack for them. Several high-profile projects have investigated the church's alleged abuses of former members, including actress Leah Remini's A&E docuseries "Scientology and the Aftermath" and Alex Gibney's Emmy-winning documentary, "Going Clear: Scientology and the Prison of Belief."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Heather Locklear charged with battery of first responders

VENTURA, Calif. (AP)—Heather Locklear has been charged with several counts of battery against first responders who answered a domestic violence call at her Southern California home. The 56-year-old "Melrose Place" actress was charged Monday with four misdemeanor counts of battery on an officer or emergency personnel, and one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer. Sheriff's officials said Locklear kicked, pushed and shouted at deputies who were answering a report that she had been violent with her boyfriend Feb. 26. No domestic violence charges have been filed. Locklear's representatives did not immediately reply to requests for comment. She's scheduled for arraignment Tuesday.

Reggaeton star insults Venezuelan leader on social media

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's reggaeton-loving president may skip the next song by Latin Grammy-winner J Balvin. The Colombian star extends a middle finger toward Nicolas Maduro and refers to him with an expletive in a brief music clip on his Instagram account. It racked up nearly 1.8 million views in the first 19 hours after being posted. A publicist for the musician declined to say if it was a clip from an upcoming release. Venezuela's socialist president is a former rock 'n' roll musician who sometimes breaks into reggaeton lyrics at public events. That hasn't saved him from criticism being thrown at him by musicians including Alejandro Sanz, Carlos Vives, Luis Fonsi and Daddy Yankee, who have decried the country's economic and political crisis.

Revamped 'American Idol' reaches more than 10 million

NEW YORK (AP)—The revamped "American Idol" had a strong debut on ABC, reaching more than 10 million viewers and shrugging off Fox's attempt to blunt the premiere's impact with its special on O.J. Simpson. The Nielsen company said Monday that the 10.34 million who watched the return of "American Idol" represented ABC's biggest Sunday night audience with regular series programming since 2012. Fox's presentation of a 2006 Simpson interview, during which he speculated about how he might have killed his former wife, was watched by 4.4 million people. That was a distant echo of the sensational interest the Simpson case drew two decades ago. There was bad blood when Fox ended "American Idol" two years ago, with producers wanting to continue the show. Scheduling the Simpson special at the same time as the "American Idol" debut was widely seen as Fox's attempt to prevent its former headlining series from getting off to a fast start for ABC.

Lighthearted poem reminds visitors to use guest towels

DEAR ABBY: I'm frustrated that guests in my home almost never use the guest towels I've put out for them in the bathroom. Why do they do this?

I remember a little poem in your column that addresses this. I'd like to clip it and put it in there next to the towels. Please print it again!

GOOD HOSTESS IN CLOVER, S.C.

DEAR HOSTESS: With pleasure—here it is:

A GUEST TOWEL SPEAKS
by Mabel Craddock

Please use me, Guest;
Don't hesitate.
Don't turn your back
Or vacillate.
Don't dry your hands
On petticoat,
On handkerchief,
Or redingote.
I'm here to use;
I'm made for drying.
Just hanging here
Gets very tiring.

I thought the poem was clever enough when I first saw it that many of you would enjoy it. After it appeared, many readers thanked me for printing it. Some said they'd framed and hung it in the bathroom their guests used. (Problem solved!) I hear from many readers asking me to re-run articles that hold meaning for them. Some say the articles have been saved until they are yellowed with age and falling apart. Eventually, it was suggested they be put together in a booklet. Since so many readers kept the items to re-read, the booklet is titled "Keepers." It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby, Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Filled with clever observations, "Keepers" is both witty and philosophical. It contains poems, essays and letters on subjects as diverse as children, parents, human nature, philosophy and death. It's a quick and easy read as well as an inexpensive gift for newly married couples, pet lovers, new parents, and anyone grieving or recovering from an illness.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: Do you think it is right that my parents disowned me because I'm seeing a guy they don't like? I don't think it is. I'm 25, and I live on my own with my son.

NOT RIGHT IN WASHINGTON

DEAR NOT RIGHT: Not knowing the guy or your parents' reason for disliking him, I can only suggest that their reaction seems extreme. By age 25 you should be mature enough to decide something like this without being emotionally blackmailed. Please recognize that if you give in to this, they will be making your decisions for you until they are no longer on this side of the sod.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU EVEN HAVE A SECRET.
THAT'S RIGHT. I DON'T.
YES YOU DO! TELL ME IT! PLEEEZE?
NO!
WHY NOT? WHY CAN'T YOU TELL ME??
IT'S ABOUT NOW.
AAAHHH! WHAT IS IT?? TELL ME! TELL ME!
I'VE SAID TOO MUCH ALREADY.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

FORGET IT, COUCH. I'M NOT NAPPING TODAY.
BUT IT'S GREY AND RAINY OUT!
WHAT'S YOUR DEAL, COUCH? WHY ARE YOU SO AGAINST ME?
I TRY TO GET WORK DONE, BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO LURE ME AWAY, LIKE A JERK.
THAT'S THE TIREDNESS TALKING. YOU JUST NEED SOME Zs.
THAT'S IT! WE'RE SWITCHING TO ALL WICKER!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I'M GETTING BORED WITH "TRICK MY TRUCK", "BIKER BUILD-OFF", AND "MONSTER GARAGE".
HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THIS NEW SHOW?
CLICK
COOL! "PIMP MY RIDING MOWER!"

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

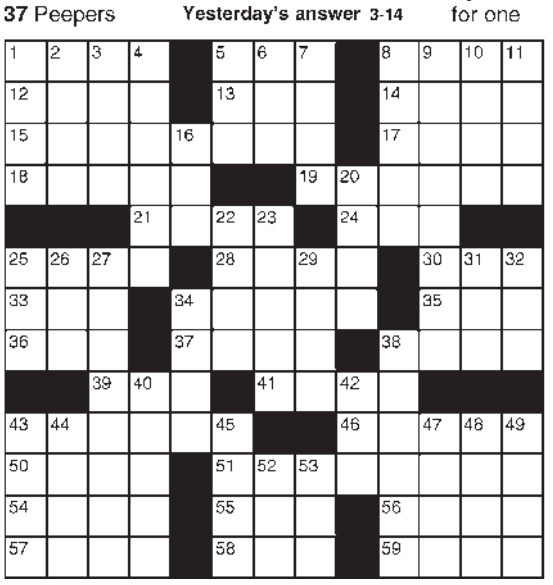
ACROSS
1 Greet
5 Abrupt turn
8 Slightly open
12 "Blessings" author Quindlen
13 Green prefix
14 Poi base
15 Access illegally, as a database
17 Scored 100 on
18 Campfire leftovers
19 Lively dances
21 Crucifix
24 Apiece
25 Works on a soundtrack
28 Grown-up nits
30 "Tasty!"
33 — jiffy
34 Georgia city
35 Enzyme suffix
36 Chest muscle
37 Peepers
38 Pesky insect
39 Decks in the ring
41 Baseball's Musial
43 Royal crowns
46 Zesty dip
50 Corn Belt state
51 Hoarders
54 And others (Lat.)
55 "Eureka!"
56 Roman 57
57 Declares
58 Cambridge sch.
59 Fish story

DOWN
1 "Funny!"
2 Literary collections
3 Foot fraction
4 2010 NBA champs
5 Buddhist sect
6 Do something
7 Gunk
8 Dickens title starter
9 Harrison Ford's "Patriot Games" role
10 Bailiwick
11 Scepters
16 Equi-
20 Frank
22 Skin care brand
23 Cuts into cubes
25 Quick swim
26 French article
27 Retreat
29 Expense
31 "Born in the —"
32 Ran into
34 Butte's kin
38 Twisted and knotty
40 Face-to-face exams
42 Request
43 Affiliations
44 Teeny bit
45 Unwanted email
47 Volcanic flow
48 Commotion
49 Spelling-out phrase
52 Sashimi fish
53 Sylvester, for one

Solution time: 23 mins.

B	I	A	S		M	E	H		C	H	I	I
A	M	M	O		O	R	E		H	A	H	A
S	P	A	N	I	A	R	D		A	L	O	T
			N	O	T		E	J	R	O	P	E
O	G	D	E	N		J	E	S	T			
F	R	A		T	I	M	E	S	P	A	N	
F	I	N		S	O	B	E	R		R	I	O
S	P	A	N	G	L	E	D		H	E	N	S
			E	T	D	S		P	A	S	T	Y
T	E	R	E	S	A		U	R	N			
A	R	I	D		L	I	C	S	P	A	N	
L	I	M	E		I	D	O		E	I	N	E
E	K	E	D		E	S	S		L	E	G	O

Yesterday's answer 3-14



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Megan Follows, 50; Billy Crystal, 70; Quincy Jones, 85; Michael Caine, 85.

Happy Birthday: Look for new ways to express what you have to offer. Put your energy into reinventing the way you use your skills, knowledge and experience. A chance to try something new will lift your spirits and give you greater incentive to participate in life. Maintaining balance and integrity will determine your popularity and success. Your numbers are 9, 17, 20, 28, 33, 45, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't make a fuss. Do your best to protect what you have. Make the changes that are within your means and that appear likely to bring you more in return. A change of pace, location or company will do you good. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* If you need help, ask. Don't miss out or fall short because you are too stubborn to admit that you can't do everything on your own. Ego and obsessive behavior will cost you. Dealings with institutions and authority figures are discouraged. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Don't take on too much. If you focus on what's important, you won't be disappointed. You have everything to gain if you show dedication, loyalty and the ability to finish what you start. Positive change is heading your way. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* You may want to offer help, but don't make promises you'll regret. Only do what's reasonable and don't jeopardize your position, status or financial stability. Learn from past mistakes. Move forward with caution. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Positive action, kindness and good advice will help you avoid an emotional mishap with someone special. Overreacting or indulgent behavior will lead to a falling-out with a friend, relative or loved one. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Don't offer personal information. Someone will overreact if you share your opinions. Stay focused on self-improvement and putting in an effort to look and feel your best. An exercise routine and healthy diet will help you avoid illness. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* A youngster will offer insight into a situation you face. Personal relationships are highlighted. Put your plans into motion and don't look back. If you trust and believe in yourself, you will improve your life. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* You'll be emotional when it comes to domestic situations. Before you make a change, consider what you will be losing in the process. Let things settle before you make any financial decisions. It's possible that you or someone close to you is overreacting. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Handling money may seem easy, and a deal someone offers you may tempt you, but do more research before you do anything that can affect your financial status. Invest in what you know, not what someone tells you. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Show some emotion when dealing with sensitive situations and you will avoid being labeled as cold and distant. It will help to let the people who love you see your vulnerability once in a while. Change should come from within. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Share your thoughts, interests and feelings with someone you love. Getting together with an old friend will be revealing and will help you put your life in perspective. Be proud of what you've accomplished. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Don't be afraid to show your true colors. Mimicking what others think will not give anyone a sense of who you are or what you are capable of doing. Be true to yourself and see what develops. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are playful, energetic and resourceful. You are proactive and resilient.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		7	3			1	4	
	9				8			
2				9				
6				1				
1				5				
4	5	9		7	6	3		
8			1	3			2	
7			9	8			6	
	1	2			3	5		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

1	4	9	6	8	7	3	5	2
5	7	2	9	4	3	1	8	6
6	8	3	1	2	5	7	4	9
2	6	1	7	5	4	9	3	8
4	9	8	2	3	6	5	1	7
3	5	7	8	1	9	2	6	4
8	3	5	4	7	2	6	9	1
9	2	4	5	6	1	8	7	3
7	1	6	3	9	8	4	2	5

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

PERU'S MANU NATIONAL PARK **Solution: 6 letters**

S	S	S	J	R	E	T	T	O	C	S	U	C	U	H
C	D	G	N	A	T	U	R	E	A	E	L	R	T	O
A	I	N	I	A	N	D	E	S	N	I	E	O	X	A
R	A	I	A	F	K	Ⓗ	Ⓢ	Ⓘ	Ⓕ	P	L	B	H	T
L	M	W	N	L	M	E	Y	F	A	S	O	S	A	Z
E	A	S	I	S	W	A	S	U	E	W	G	P	R	I
T	N	S	S	Y	L	O	C	I	U	A	I	I	V	N
U	T	A	A	T	N	A	L	A	E	R	S	D	E	S
N	E	L	B	O	R	F	M	M	W	R	W	E	S	H
A	C	G	T	T	R	A	O	I	L	S	A	R	T	I
M	A	T	A	E	B	K	D	R	N	A	M	E	R	N
A	O	M	T	L	A	K	E	E	E	A	P	M	I	T
C	B	T	U	Y	D	R	I	B	S	S	S	O	B	U
O	U	E	A	P	E	C	C	A	R	Y	T	T	E	Y
B	S	T	A	B	I	O	S	P	H	E	R	E	S	A

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Andes, Animals, Basin, Bats, Biosphere, Bird, Blues, Boca Manu, Butterflies, Clay, Cliffs, Cotton, Cusco, Diamante, Figs, Fish, Forest, Glasswings, Harvest, Hoatzin, Lake, Lowlands, Macaws, Nature, Otter, Oxbow, Palm, Paucartambo, Peccary, Peru, Puma, Remote, Scarlet, Shintuya, Sloth, Snakes, Spider, Swamps, Tapir, Tayakome, Trades, Tribes, Yine

Yesterday's Answer: Blank

Treasuries 13 through 29 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Building & Grounds Maintenance. $7.05-$7.25/hr. Mail resume to Pacific International Marianas, Inc. dba Midway Motors. P.O. Box 500887, Saipan MP 96950.

S. FLOWER CORPORATION
Dba OH MY HOUSE

Is looking to hire

(2) Commercial Cleaner
(2) Maintenance & Repair Worker

For more information please call 483-4693 or 288-6108

Charm Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Engine Marine Mechanic
• Must have 2 years experience and able to inspect, repair, replace engine and machinery

(1) Beautician Manager
• Must have 2 years experience, knowledgeable in Skin Care and manage/operate a salon

(2) Beautician
• Must have 3 years experience, knowledgeable in all salon services.

Interested applicants, please call 233-9391 or submit resume to P.O. Box 503332, Saipan MP 96950

V-KOOL
Marianas USA LLC
is looking for

Window film installer "Film Specialist": 2 Positions (SAIPAN)
- Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window film installation.
- Ability to work with varieties of window films and window glass surfaces and must not afraid of height.
- Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
- Salary: Negotiable

3A'S POLYSHINE
Home of 'V-KOOL'
is looking for

UPHOLSTERER:
2 Positions (SAIPAN)
- Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstering.
- Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interior of vehicles.
- Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
- Salary: Negotiable
  Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as a Upholsterer.

Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on **MARCH 29, 2018.** Interview will be conducted from 30th March 2018 at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

General Maintenance / Cleaner
A high school graduate with a minimum of five (5) years work experience in general maintenance. Must be well-rounded in performing various maintenance routines such monitoring and upkeep of water systems, premise maintenance for cleanliness and efficiency, and proper removal and disposal of debris, waste, and/or hazardous materials. Must be able to lift. Must know how to operate power tools and cleaning equipment. Must know how to handle solutions and chemicals according to specifications. Applicant must have good work habits. Must be reliable, dependable and have good work ethics.

Building Maintenance/Repairer
A high school graduate with a minimum of five (5) years work experience specifically in structural repairs. Must possess knowledge and ability to repair and maintain concrete structure to include electrical work, masonry, painting with emphasis on plumbing and carpentry. Must know how to visualize and strategically plan repairs on heavy and serious damages as well as new projects. Applicant must have good work habits. Must be reliable, dependable and have good work ethics.

For more information, please call Mary Sablan at 783-6249.
Resumes may be emailed to: mmssablan@gmail.com

MICRONESIA RENEWABLE ENERGY INC. | CNMI

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Solar Energy/Electrical Installation Technician

Overview
Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc. is seeking applicants to install residential grid-tied and off grid Solar PV systems. In this position, the PV Installer will provide support to the crew lead of the installation team, communicate job status data to the operations management, and ensure the completion of installation of all solar arrays/systems. It is the responsibility of every Installer to ensure safe work practices for the MRE installation team.

Responsibilities
- Pulling inventory for each installation job
- Pre-assemble job components in the warehouse
- Layout and assembly of solar modules / array and mounting hardware
- Mechanical/structural mounting of racking, modules and electrical equipment
- Electrical wiring of solar array/system (AC and DC)
- Document completion of completed installation
- Cleanup of job site
- Attend mandatory training sessions on new products, installation methodology and safety
- Additional duties required as needed

Qualifications
- 1 year of roof work, general construction, or Electrical required
- Previous solar experience strongly preferred
- Must be able to lift 50lbs
- Ability to work in extreme environments (example: heat, sun, etc)
- Must be willing and able to climb ladders, stairs, work on rooftops and able to work on your feet for long periods of time
- Basic computer skills including familiarity with Microsoft Office programs
- High school diploma or GED required
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required
- Excellent customer service skills required
- Must be able to successfully pass a pre-employment criminal, driving and drug screen
- Must have a clean driving record (example- no DUI in the last 5 years)
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license
- Thrive in a team environment

Benefits for Full-Time Positions:
- Above Market Competitive compensation with many positions incentivized
- Paid training with Micronesia's leader in solar power
- Full benefits package including health, vision, and dental insurance after 90 days of employment
- Employee referral program
- Career path opportunities for top performers

Please email your resume to: scarbonneau@micronesiarenewableenergy.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

MRE is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer committed to diversity in the workplace. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, gender identity or any other factor protected by applicable federal, or US Territorial laws.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. DBA: Club C

Cook – Part Time (1)

Requirement:
High school graduate, GED or equivalent plus two (2) year work experience as a cook. Preferable one with experience in Western, Japanese, Korean and Chinese cuisines. Must be energetic with an excellent track record in hospitality and who thrives in a fast pace service environment. Able to multi-task and flexible to work days, evenings, weekends and holidays. Final interview may include a skill test. This position requires examination and clearance for Food Handlers Certificate before hire. Food Handlers Certificate must be valid at all time during employment.

Salary Range - $9.00 - $10.00

Anticipated starting date of Employment: October 01, 2018
Anticipated closing date of employment: September 30, 2019
Interested applicants may pick up an application at our HR Office located within Kanoa Resort, Susupe Beach Road from Monday to Friday between the hour of 10:30AM to 5:30PM. Applications must be supported with resume, diploma or certificate and a valid photo I.D.
Applicant must be eligible to work in the U.S.

MICRONESIA RENEWABLE ENERGY INC. | CNMI

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Residential and Commercial Solar Energy/Electrical Construction Manager

Our firm is looking for the right candidate to help grow our firm and take our company to the next level

Overview
The Residential / Commercial Electrical Construction Manager is part of the project team and is fully responsible for the oversight and management of the project cycle for both Residential and Commercial projects. This includes: project planning, including defining schedule and budgets which meet contract requirements; support of the design process through plan-check and permitting; aiding the Project Manager in defining elements of work and soliciting bids for subcontracted work where necessary; providing direction and supervision of all field activities related to the physical construction; supporting Project Manager in managing the project budget, cash flow, and schedule through the project cycle; oversight of the data management for all project data flows including submittals, RFI's etc.; oversight for all quality and safety requirements on the project; materials and equipment planning and requisition; and planning/management for all general conditions requirements to successfully install the project on-time and within budget, while maintaining required levels for quality and safety.

The Residential / Commercial Electrical Construction Manager is also responsible for ensuring appropriate levels of workers are on site to ensure adequate progress of work, coordination of trades and overall project completion to meet contractual commitments. The Residential / Commercial Electrical Construction Manager reports to the Operation Director of the company.

Responsibilities
- Manage the project cycle for residential / commercial Electrical and PV projects
- Support the design process and permit submittal
- Oversee all field teams and installation progress
- Oversee the Project Manager in defining elements of work and development of subcontracts
- Support the bid process for subcontracted work
- Oversee Project Manager in the development and management project budgets
- Oversee Project Manager to develop and manage the project schedule using MS Project
- Manage daily logs and timesheets for project
- Organize and manage all project data and archive
- Coordinate the work of subcontractors on site
- Acquire subcontract labor, materials or equipment to ensure timely completion of the project
- Conduct site audits for new projects
- Additional duties required as needed

Qualifications
- A minimum of five years of experience in construction of residential and commercial electrical or solar energy projects.
- In-depth knowledge of electrical construction products, practices, subcontracting and project work flow/sequencing
- Certified Project Manager (CPM) certification preferred
- Experience in similar capacity on a project team for commercial projects directing crews or tradesmen in general construction, assembly and/or electrical work
- Detailed knowledge of construction budgets and schedules
- Knowledge of major PV components (PV modules, inverters and racking systems, etc.) preferred
- Ability to lead craftsmen and construction crews
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required
- Excellent customer service skills requires
- Must have a clean driving record. (Example, no DUI in the last 5 years)
- Must be able to successfully pass a pre-employment criminal, driving and drug screen
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

Benefits for Full-Time Positions
- Competitive compensation
- Paid training
- Full benefits package including health, vision, and dental insurance
- Attractive vacation and holiday pay
- Employee referral program
- Career path opportunities for top performers

Please email your resume to: scarbonneau@micronesiarenewableenergy.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

MRE is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer committed to diversity in the workplace. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, gender identity or any other factor protected by applicable federal, or US Territorial laws.

WHATZIT Solution: Time on my hands

QCM, LLC.
Is seeking for the following:
(6) Construction Workers
U.S. only with 5 years experience in multiple trades.
Must have own reliable transportation, no housing, no insurance. Minimum wage.

Send references, police clearance and resume to QCM, LLC. at PMB 3602 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950.

ROSE BBQ - CHEAP CUT
GARAPAN, SAIPAN

(1) COOK

Email application at:
merchantthompson@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Medical Sales Representative

Job Duties:
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Interested applicants may email a copy of their resume and police clearance to ruth.feril@medpharmusa.net or fax to 670.235-5418

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Keenum leaving Vikings to sign with Broncos

MINNESOTA—The Denver Broncos have apparently worked out their quarterback situation ahead of the official start of free agency.

ESPN's Adam Schefter reports that Case Keenum is leaving the Minnesota Vikings and intends to sign with the Broncos on Wednesday.

Keenum revitalized his career in 2017, leading the Vikings to an 11-3 record and a spot in the NFC championship game as their starter after Sam Bradford suffered a knee injury. He finished the season with 3,547 passing yards, 22 touchdowns and seven interceptions.

Prior to signing as the Vikings' backup, Keenum struggled in limited action as a starter with the Los Angeles Rams, posting a 4-5 record with nine touchdowns and 11 interceptions in 2016.

Broncos advisor and former head coach Gary Kubiak advocated for Keenum over pending free agent and former Washington Redskins quarterback Kirk Cousins.

The Broncos had a glaring hole under center last season, cycling through Trevor Siemian, Paxton Lynch and Brock Osweiler en route to an unexpected 5-11 record and last-place finish in the AFC West.

The news is the first free-agent move of what is expected to be an active offseason for the quarterback position in the NFL. The trade market has already been busy, with the Buffalo Bills sending Tyrod Taylor to the Cleveland Browns and the Redskins trading for former Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Alex Smith, which cemented Cousins' status as a pending free agent.

With the Broncos apparently having settled on their quarterback, the Vikings, Bills, New York Jets and Arizona Cardinals are the mostly likely teams to be actively seeking quarterbacks in free agency and the draft. The Browns, meanwhile, have several options at quarterback while the Jacksonville Jaguars could seek an upgrade over Blake Bortles.

AP
Minnesota Vikings quarterback Case Keenum warms up before the NFL football NFC championship game against the Philadelphia Eagles Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018, in Philadelphia.

Meanwhile, in Seattle, the Seahawks are retaining one of their key defensive backs by signing safety Bradley McDougald to a three-year contract.

Bringing back McDougald was important for the Seahawks after he showed his value last season with his ability to fill in at both strong safety and free safety. McDougald was able to fill in for Earl Thomas when he was injured and took over for Kam Chancellor after he was lost for the season to a neck injury.

McDougald was set to become a free agent after playing last season on a one-year deal. NFL.com reported McDougald's new deal is worth up to nearly $14 million. McDougald finished the 2017 season with 67 tackles and four passes defense.

Seattle also released defensive back DeShawn Shead, making him an unrestricted free agent. Seattle wants to bring Shead back.

He spent most of last season on the physically unable to perform list due to a knee injury and Seattle could have brought him back under the terms of that contract. But now that Shead is healthy, the Seahawks afforded him the chance to see his value on the open market.

In Texas, the Dallas Cowboys have re-signed defensive tackle Brian Price, an exclusive rights free agent.

Price, who signed Monday, played in the first eight games for the Cowboys last season before going on injured reserve with a knee injury sustained against Kansas City. The 23-year-old had eight tackles and three quarterback pressures.

Dallas claimed Price off waivers from Green Bay in September, looking for depth on the defensive line after dumping Cedric Thornton. Price signed as an undrafted free agent with the Packers in 2016.

In Oakland, the Raiders released cornerback Sean Smith and right tackle Marshall Newhouse on Monday to create more salary cap room heading into free agency.

The Raiders also officially announced the signing of defensive tackle Justin Ellis to a three-year contract and signed receiver Griff Whalen to a one-year deal. Ellis had agreed to the deal last week to stay off the free-agent market but it was not announced until Monday.

Smith is also facing legal problems. He will plead guilty Tuesday to a felony count of assault with great bodily injury in connection with an altercation in Pasadena last year, according to the attorney for the alleged victim.

Smith was accused of assaulting his sister's then-boyfriend, Christopher Woods, on July 4. Two witnesses testified during a preliminary hearing in December that Smith stomped Woods' head as he lay bleeding and unconscious.

Woods, Els to captain Australia Presidents Cup

NEW YORK (AP)—Tiger Woods and Ernie Els will duel in the Presidents Cup again, this time as captains.

Woods and Els have agreed to be captains for the 2019 matches in Melbourne, Australia, according to two people involved in the Presidents Cup. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the captain selections have not been announced.

They are expected to be introduced Tuesday at the Arnold Palmer Invitational near Orlando, Florida.

Woods has been heavily involved in team event while not playing in recent years because of back injuries. He was an assistant to Steve Stricker in the Presidents Cup last year, and he already has agreed to be a vice captain at the Ryder Cup this fall in France for the second straight time.

The development first was reported by the blog Morning Read.

The Presidents Cup, which began in 1994 and was patterned after the Ryder Cup to give international players from outside Europe a chance to compete, has been one-sided since the start. The International team's only victory was in 1998 at Royal Melbourne.

Els was the logical choice to be the next International captain, following three stints by Nick Price. One person with knowledge of the decision said Woods reached out to the PGA Tour about his interest in being the next captain.

Woods and Els are certain to inject some life into the matches, from their own relationship and history, and from the most intense moment in Presidents Cup history.

The 2003 matches ended in a tie at 17 at Fancourt in South Africa, the home country of Els. The rules then were for a player from each team to have his name placed in an envelope, and they would play sudden-death to decide the Presidents Cup.

Els and Woods matched par on the first extra hole. Els had to make a 12-foot par putt on the next hole to extend the playoff. In gathering darkness that made it difficult to read putts, Woods holed a double-breaking, 15-foot par putt on the third extra hole. Els had to make from 6 feet to match him.

When it was too dark to continue, and both teams on the green were debating what to do, captains Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player agreed to share the cup.

Woods referred to it at the time as one of his most nerve-wracking moments. Els said it was the first time he felt his legs shake over a putt.

Walker, Yankees agree to $4M, 1-year deal

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Joining the New York Yankees caused Neil Walker to smile, despite a hefty drop in salary.

The free agent infielder agreed Monday to a $4 million, one-year contract, a 77 percent pay cut in a deal that allows New York prospects Gleyber Torres and Miguel Andujar more time to mature in the minor leagues.

Walker earned $17.2 million last season, when he accepted a qualifying offer from the New York Mets.

"It's certainly a crazy offseason, but more than anything my hope was that I'd land somewhere that's going to be competitive and have a chance to win," Walker said. "I'm happy to be here, happy to be on a contending team."

Walker, a switch-hitter, likely will start at second base and Brandon Drury, acquired from Arizona last month, will play third. Walker can make $500,000 in performance bonuses: $125,000 each for 425, 450, 475 and 500 plate appearances.

"It's just another choice for the manager," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said. "If he takes something from somebody over time, so be it. But again, he's getting a little bit of a late start given the fact that we're probably about two weeks away from leaving Florida."

The 32-year-old Walker hit .265 with 14 homers and 49 RBI last year for the Mets and Milwaukee Brewers, who acquired him in a trade Aug. 12. The Yankees also pursued Walker last summer but a potential deal with the Mets fell through, according to reports.

Torres, limited to 55 minor league games last year before an injury to his left (non-throwing) elbow that required season-ending Tommy John surgery, has a .130 (3 for 23) batting average in 10 spring training games.

Another second base contender, Tyler Wade, is 9 for 27 (.333) over 12 games.

Yankees manager Aaron Boone said the second-base competition remains open but added that Walker "has put himself very much in that conversation."

"We had a really good player fall into our lap, essentially," Boone said. "His track record speaks for itself. I think physically-speaking, I would expect him to be ready to go opening day."

Westbrook's 20th triple-double lifts Thunder vs Kings

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Russell Westbrook got the help he needed from co-stars Paul George and Carmelo Anthony.

George and Anthony each scored 21 points and Westbrook notched his 20th triple-double of the season to help the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Sacramento Kings 106-101 on Monday night.

George and Anthony broke out of shooting slumps. George was 4 of 9 on 3-pointers and Anthony hit 5 of 7 to make the Kings pay for packing the paint.

"I've been through it, through tough shooting nights," George said. "Melo has been through tough shooting nights. That's the least of my concerns and the least of his concerns, I'm sure of it. That's all going to come. My job is just to continue to keep going. Continue to stay in attack mode. I'll get in a rhythm here eventually where I'll feel good on a nightly basis but I will continue to be aggressive out there."

Westbrook had 17 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists in the 99th triple-double of his career for the Thunder, who moved into fourth place in the Western Conference standings. Oklahoma City is now a season-high 11 games above .500.

Thunder center Steven Adams left the game in the third quarter with a left hip contusion and did not return. Just two days earlier against San Antonio, he hurt his left ankle in the third quarter and did not return.

Bogdan Bogdanovic scored 19 points and Garrett Temple and Justin Jackson each added 15 for the Kings.

The Thunder held the Kings to 40.9 percent shooting overall, and 38.9 percent shooting in the fourth quarter.

"Our defense has been huge," George said. "Again, it's all a credit to our effort."

Oklahoma City led 46-40 at halftime. George had 14 points and Anthony 13. Temple's tip-in in the closing seconds of the third quarter gave Sacramento a 79-78 lead.

The Thunder led 88-85 in the fourth quarter when Westbrook checked back in after a brief rest. He got his 10th assist on a pass to Jerami Grant for a layup and his 10th rebound with just over 3 minutes to play. Westbrook's lob to Grant for a dunk put the Thunder up 102-92 with just under 3 minutes to play.

Sacramento cut its deficit to 104-101 on a pair of free throws by Bogdanovic with 23 seconds left, but Oklahoma City's Corey Brewer made two free throws with 17 seconds left to put it out of reach.

Westbrook made a game-winning 3-pointer against the Kings on Feb. 22. Temple said he thought the Kings did well to hang tough this time after losing at Denver the night before.

"Coming off a back-to-back, playing against a pretty physical team, against a team who is obviously battling for a playoff spot and against a team who beat us at home in an emotional game—it was real big for us to come in and battle the way we did defensively and offensively," Temple said.

AP

Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) shoots between Sacramento Kings guard De'Aaron Fox (5) and guard Bogdan Bogdanovic, right, in the second half of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Monday, March 12, 2018.

Bucks 121, Grizzlies 103

In Memphis, Brandon Jennings feels a sense of urgency in trying to prove he belongs back in the NBA after signing a 10-day contract with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Jennings, who joined the team on Sunday, took a huge step in that direction Monday night, finishing with 16 points, 12 assists and eight rebounds as the Bucks sent Memphis to its 18th consecutive loss.

"We wanted more," interim Bucks coach Joe Prunty said with a twinkle in his eye. "He was very good. Obviously, the 12 assists were great. .Overall, a really positive night from him. A lot of things that were really good."

Khris Middleton scored 24 points and Giannis Antetokounmpo added 20 for the Bucks, while Eric Bledsoe finished with 14 points, including a trio of baskets to stem a fourth-quarter Memphis rally. But it was Jennings, who last week was playing with the Bucks' G League team after playing in China earlier this year, who was the talk of the locker room.

For Jennings, there was some nervousness in returning to the NBA. He acknowledged he has finally recovered from what some thought was a career-ending left Achilles tendon injury suffered in 2015 when he was with the Detroit Pistons.

Rockets 109, Spurs 93

In Houston, after the Rockets easily downed the San Antonio Spurs, James Harden was asked about his team taking care of business against a team missing its top players.

The All-Star was quick to point out that despite already clinching a playoff berth, this team has many more goals ahead.

"We don't have the luxury of just taking nights off," he said. "We're not where we want to be. We're not that good yet. So we have to go out there and approach every single game, no matter who we're playing, like it's a playoff game. We're 15 games away, so it's time to take it serious."

Harden scored 16 of his 28 points in the third quarter to allow the Rockets to build a huge lead and sail to a 109-93 victory Monday night.

The NBA's leading scorer took a little while to get going a night after sitting out against Dallas with a sore left knee and had just 12 points at halftime.

Despite his slow start, the Rockets had a comfortable lead in the third and were still up by 13 after a basket by San Antonio's Dejounte Murray with about eight minutes left in the quarter. It was then that Harden took over, scoring the next eight points to start a 16-4 run that extended the lead to 82-57 with about 3 1/2 minutes left in the third and had coach Gregg Popovich calling for a timeout.

Harden had a 3-pointer and made three free throws after being fouled on a 3-point attempt to propel that spurt. He didn't return in the fourth quarter with the game in hand.

"We've played I don't know how many games in about eight days or 10 days, but it's a lot of games it seems like," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "And to have the legs to be able to do what they're doing and put the game away is pretty good."

Trail Blazers 115, Heat 99

In Portland, Damian Lillard had 32 points and 10 assists, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Miami for their 10th straight victory.

Jusuf Nurkic added 27 points and 16 rebounds for the Blazers, who have the longest current winning streak in the NBA and a two-game lead over Oklahoma City for the No. 3 seed in the Western Conference.

The Heat used an 18-2 run to start the fourth quarter to trim a 19-point deficit to three, but Lillard took charge for the Blazers, just as he has throughout the winning streak. The All-Star guard broke Portland's drought of over five minutes with a 3-pointer midway through the period to put Portland back in front by six, and the Blazers stayed safely ahead from there.

Lillard scored 21 points after halftime. He leads the league in second-half scoring.

Goran Dragic scored 23 points for the Heat, who were without two key players in starting center Hassan Whiteside and sixth man Dwyane Wade.

The Blazers closed the first quarter on a 14-4 lead to take a 34-25 lead, capped by a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from rookie Zach Collins. Another 3-pointer by Collins with 7:03 left in the second quarter put Portland up 45-33, forcing the Heat to call time.

Wizards' Wall nears return, but not against Timberwolves

The Washington Wizards won't have point guard John Wall when they host the Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday night. They do at least know he is getting closer to returning.

Wall, recovering from left knee surgery, took part in a pre-practice workout with Wizards starters on Monday. It was Wall's first session with teammates since his Jan. 31 surgery.

"He looked good. A little winded, but that was expected," coach Scott Brooks told the Post about the workout, which lasted 30-35 minutes. "This was just the next step to get him on the court, some five-on-zero stuff, to get him on the court with other players.

"Not sure how many more days will this be before he goes to contact, it's definitely progressing in that direction. Just taking it day by day now."

After Tuesday, Washington (38-29 and fifth in the Eastern Conference) has games Wednesday and Saturday this week, though Wall is not expected to play.

The Wizards, 5-5 in their last 10 games, are coming off a 129-102 loss Sunday at Miami. The Heat pulled away with a 43-28 third quarter. Playing the second of back-to-backs, the Wizards surrendered 76 points in the paint, their highest total of the season.

"We didn't give any resistance," Brooks told the Post. "They were just putting their heads down and attacking us, and we had no protection at the rim. They outplayed us. There is no way around it."

Reserve Jodie Meeks led Washington with 23 points and Bradley Beal finished with 14.

The Timberwolves played Sunday as well and their experience was at the other end of the spectrum.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 31 points and 16 rebounds as the Timberwolves snapped a season-high three-game losing streak with a 109-103 win over the Golden State Warriors, who were without star Stephen Curry.

Homeboyz beats Intensity 8 in Thursday League

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Amari's IT&E Homeboyz rode on Nolan Cultura's game-long brilliance in completing an 8-5 decision over sister team Amari's Intenstiy 8 in last week's action in the Budweiser-Saipan Billiards Association's Thursday League.

Cultura was unbeaten in five matches in singles and partners events to push the Homeboyz's record to 34-18, just one win shy of new leaders 9 Eleven 8 Black Ball, which holds a 35-17 mark to top the team standing. The Intensity 8 dropped to 19-33 record to join the VFW Assassins at the bottom of the rankings in the eight-team field.

Cultura, after winning two singles matches, paired with Cesar Sangalang and George Lizardo in three separate Partner's 8-Ball events against the lowly Intensity 8 and had a sweep to lead Amari's IT&E Homeboyz's victory.

Meanwhile, the Black Ball grabbed the lead from the Homeboyz after a 9-4 win against the Sands Team SCS (24-28) in the other game, while the third-running 9 Eleven MJD Warriors (30-22) drubbed the Assassins, 11-2.

Over at the Tuesday League, the Destroyers improved to 36-16 after posting a 10-3 triumph versus the Brannon's 670 Builders (23-29).

In other results in the division, the 9 Eleven Wild Boyz (28-24) downed the Tasha's The Masters Touch (30-22), 10-3, while the Brannon's Docomo Hustlers (29-23) edged the 9 Eleven Str8 Black Ball (29-23), 7-6.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Amari's IT&E Homeboyz players gather for a photo after their 8-5 win over sister squad Intensity 8 in last week's Budweiser-Saipan Billiards Association's Thursday League.

Taga Kids returns Saturday

The Taga Kids, the island's age group and relay triathlon event for under 12 children, returns this Saturday after being shelved for more than three years.

The race starts at 6am at Paupau Beach and is divided into two divisions: 5 to 8 and 9 to 12 age groups. The swim-bike-run course will be taking place around Paupau Beach to ensure the safety of all participants. Registration is free and can be done at saipantriathlon.com. Sign up ends on March 15 and there won't be any race day registration.

The course for the 5- to 8-year-old participants will feature a 50-meter swim and one loop each in the bike and run legs. A 100-m swim and two loops in the bike and run portions will be the course for the 9 to 12 age group.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A young swimmer gets out of the water during last year's Tagaman Triathon. Athletes in the 5 to 12 age group will have their own triathlon event with the staging of the Taga Kids this Saturday at Paupau Beach.

The Taga Kids, organized by the Triathlon Association of the CNMI and supported in part by the Marianas Visitors Authority, is sort of a teaser event for next week's Tagaman. Participants who will complete the race will receive a finisher's medal and shirt, while the top overall for each age group will get separate medals.

Before being shelved, the Taga Kids was held the day after the Tagaman, as youngsters and other budding triathletes got a taste of a scaled-down version of the CNMI's longest-running triathlon event.

T Galleria, Kanoa Resort, IT&E, TanHoldings, Brabu Pharmacy, Hyatt Regency Saipan, MARPAC, Island Rent-A-Car, Triple J, Bridge Capital, Tri Tour, GU, Powerade, and J.C. Tenorio Enterprises are the sponsors of this year's event. ***(Jon Perez)***

SAIPAN'S

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ahead of her mother Ayumi, who recorded 53:10. Ayano Braxton completed Saipan runners' domination in the division after checking in at third place with her time of 49:25.

In the age group contest, Christian Villacrusis had the best time (44:36) en route to clinching the men's 15 to 19 top honors. In the 14 and under category, the first place finish went to Akira Kadokura, who also broke the one-hour barrier with his 52:08.

The rest of the age group top finishers completed the 10K in less than an hour with Saipan's Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel winning the men's 40 to 49 division after logging 44:41 and Florence Antonio prevailing in the men's 50 to 59 with his 46:49. Men's 20 to 29 champion Suhan Ji of South Korea checked in at 47:22, men's 30 to 39's Leon Etienne of the U.S. posted 47:07, and men's over 60's Shoji Tsushima of Japan timed in at 48:08.

In the women's division, the age group champions were U14's Jiamei Xu (1:04:28), 15 to 19's Linzhi Wu (1:04:29), 20 to 29's Deenalin Crook (53:31), 30 to 39's Heo Mee Seo (59:20), 50 to 59's Seoing Chul Cho (54:06), and over 60's Kozue Yamada (1:02:32).

THREE

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4-0 slates.

Kier Agda, with one out at the top of the eighth, got on base on an error by Aces first baseman Eric Palacios and later scored on a Kimo Angailen RBI single for the Blue Jays' third run in the game.

The Blue Jays had three more hits in the eighth, but blew their scoring chances after Flores forced Leo Salalila and Quin Blas to consecutive fly outs to center fielder Ben Jones Jr.

It was almost the same story in the ninth with Chris George and Russel Hocog scoring back-to-back.

George got on base on an error by left fielder John Tudela, moved to second on Hocog single, and scored on a missed play by catcher Barry Sunumai. Hocog then stole second and later reached home on another throwing error by Sunumai.

Flores and the Aces settled down after the successive miscues with the closer retiring Greg Sablan and forcing Agda to an infield fly. The match then ended when Jess Mesa grounded out to third baseman Nokki Saralu.

Lamarc Iguel went 2-for-5 with an RBI double in the Aces' seven-run inning in the fourth, while John Tudela scored twice on a 2-for-3 batting. Saralu and Sunumai each batted 1-for-5, with the former having an RBI triple also in the fourth and the latter making an RBI and scoring twice. Eric Palacios and Vince Torres combined for 4-for-9.

ROLLERS

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day's second U18 match.

The 670 Sonics XVII began dominating its sister squad in the second quarter, turning a 12-9 lead to 30-12 advantage at the break. Tony Kim and Parsley Linaogo teamed up for 10 points in the second canto to hand the 670 Sonics XVII a double-digit lead.

The 670 Sonics XVI was held to a field goal in the pivotal second period off Ronald Bernardo's triple and never recovered from thereon, as Champ Sabangan and Kim finished things for the 670 Sonics XVII after combining for 12 of the winning squad's 15 markers in the final frame.

Meanwhile, in yesterday's lone game, Dillan Cruz and Ervin Villarin nailed key baskets in the second half to power the Marauder Rollers past the Young Warriors.

Villarin had 6 points in the second half, including the team's last two field goals, while Cruz added 3 markers with his split charity proving to be crucial in the Marauder Rollers' close win. Villarin finished with a game-high 12 points.

Yesterday's victory was second in a row for the Marauder Rollers, as it came from a 52-8 demolition of Dandan Sonics last Saturday.

Cruz scored 10 points in the easy win, while Villarin chipped in 8.

In other results in the U15 division last Saturday, the 670 Sonics hammered Legal Rollers B, 41-20.

The 670 Sonics built a 20-6 halftime lead and never gave its opponent a chance to mount a comeback for the 19-point winning margin. Raven Francisco top-scored for the 670 Sonics after making 12 points.

In the U18 division, the China Town Titans, Ol'Aces Extreme, and Ol'Aces Elite prevailed against their respective opponents.

The Titans routed the Kagman Sparks last Monday, 33-14, behind the 13 points of Joshua Hark Galarion.

The Ol'Aces Extreme also waltzed past NMI Rollers B last Friday, 60-26, while the Ol'Aces Elite edged T8 Warriors, 39-37.

Traven Quitugua had 3 straight points, while Andrew Omelau made the Ol'Aces Elite's last field goal to hand their team the victory. Greg Deleon Guerrero scored the 4 other points of the Ol'Aces Elite in the fourth quarter, while only K.K. Kainoa and Henry Aguon hit the board for the T8 Warriors.

2018 Saipan Marathon

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa heads to the finish line, while his supporters cheer him on during last Saturday's 2018 Saipan Marathon.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio celebrates her half marathon finish.

Russia's Aleksandr Dorovskikh raises the finisher's tape after completing the half marathon.

A Skechers- sponsored runner is about to cross the finish line.

Leo Wania is all smiles after finishing the 10K race.

Mt. Carmel School's Galvin Deleon Guerrero celebrates his 10K finish.

Three runners are about to cut the tape and complete the 10K race

Husband and wife Eric and Sharon Abragan hold hands heading into the finish line.

Keenum leaving Vikings to sign with Broncos

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Westbrook's 20th triple-double lifts Thunder vs Kings

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Three in a row for Aces

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Franco Flores pitched in relief and the Aces had a seven-run fourth inning as the defending champions downed the Blue Jays, 9-4, in last Monday night's 2018 Saipan Baseball League game at the Francisco M. Palacios Ballfield.

Flores closed out for the Aces, replacing starter Dung Tenorio at the top of the sixth inning and helped the Aces foil the Blue Jays' comeback bid. He was tagged with one earned run on four hits, recorded four strikeouts, and had no walks.

Flores, after quickly dispatching six batters in the sixth and seventh, seemed to be losing control in the next two innings, but recovered in time to hand the Aces their third straight win after an opening day loss to the Falcons last month.

The Blue Jays dropped to 2-3 for fourth place behind the Aces and the undefeated and co-leaders Falcons and GSM, which hold identical

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JON PEREZ

Aces first baseman Eric Palacios, left, waits for the throw of Blue Jays pitcher Zachary Sasamoto during their game in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League last Monday at the Francisco M. Palacios Ballfield.

Rollers, 670 Sonics XVII win

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A 670 Sonics player is left open for a shot during their game against the Ol'Aces Extreme in the boys U15 division of the Diaz youth caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 670 Sonics XVII and Rt. Law Marauder Rollers recorded contrasting wins in the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League this week.

The Marauder Rollers escaped with a 30-29 win over the Young Warriors in their boys U15 division game yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, while the 670 Sonics XVII eased past the 670 Sonics XVI, 57-32, in last Mon-

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Saipan's young runners excel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The young guns delivered in the 10K event of last Saturday's 2019 Saipan Marathon.

Saipan's U18 runners made it to the Top 6 of the men's and women's divisions and gained top honors in the age group competition of the shortest race in Marianas Visitors Authority's signature event.

Thirteen-year-old Rintaro Miyawaki was the fastest finisher among the island's youth runners as he completed the 10K in 41:32. He was the third overall finisher in the men's division behind last year's champion and 2018 runner-up Keith Longuski (38:11) and South Korea's Sungchan Park (37:45). Saipan resident Kosuke Sato (42:02), Japan's Hideko Sasaki (42:35), and South Korea's Sukjae Byun (42:46) rounded out the Top 6.

Miyawaki and the more than 500 10K participants ran from American Memorial Park to Beach Road, across Char's Store near the Saipan Mayor's Office and back to the starting line.

In the women's division, three Saipan U18 runners placed in the Top 6 with Therize Millare coming in at second place behind South Korea's Yunmi Lee. The 15-year-old Millare clocked in at 47:58 against the 45:46 of Lee.

Ten-year-old Kaithlynn Chavez was the youngest Top 6 finisher in the women's field, placing at No. 4 after completing the 10K race in 50:29. Thirteen-year-old Coume Kaga was ranked fifth after submitting 51:10 and finished

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Therize Millare cuts the finisher's tape on the way to placing second overall in the women's division 10K race of last Saturday's Saipan Marathon.